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THE
PALL MALL
GAZETTE

No. 7771.—Vol. L. THURSDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 13, 1890. Price One Penny.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

DRURY LANE (The National Theatre).
TWICE DAILY, at 1.30 and 7.15, AUGUSTUS HARRIS'S Pantomime, JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, produced on a scale of splendour surpassing in magnificence the displays offered to the public by Mr. AUGUSTUS HARRIS in previous years, and performed by a Company of Comedians each of whom is an acknowledged attraction in himself—Messrs. Nicholls, Leon, Lauri, Ion, Griffiths Brothers, Conquest, Jun., Leopold Bradbury, Arthur, Payne (Clown), and Campbell; Misses Vernon, Fandelle, Hewitt, Jones, and Duggan. Box-office open from 10 A.M. all day.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BERNSTEIN TREE.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A MAN'S SHADOW, by ROBERT BUCHANAN. Mr. TREE as LAROQUE and LAVERSAN. Messrs. Fernandez, Kemble, C. Collette, E. M. Robson, Allan, Hargreaves, Tapping, Gurney, Harwood; Miss Ima Nedra, Miss Emmie Ferguson, Miss Norreys, and Mrs. Tree. At 7.45, GOOD FOR NOTHING; Miss Norreys. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open 10 till 5. An Early Doors Entrance for Gallery 1s.
MATINEE of A MAN'S SHADOW SATURDAY NEXT and following Saturday, at 2.30.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)
THE DEAD HEART—A Story of the French Revolution. TO-NIGHT at Eight o'clock (12th time), Mr. Henry Irving, Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Stirling, Mr. Righton; Miss Phillips, and Miss Ellen Terry. Box office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily 10 to 5. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages, 10.45.—LYCEUM

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)
THIS EVENING, at 8.30, OUR BOYS. Mr. David James, Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Arthur Elwood, Mr. E. W. Gardiner; Mesdames Olga Brandon, E. Brunton, F. Frances, E. Vining. Preceded by, at 7.50, SWEETHEART, GOOD-BYE. Messrs. Scott Buist, H. Saker, G. Stanton, E. Lacey; Mesdames E. Tyrrell, E. Brunton, E. Vining. Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—MATINEE of OUR BOYS on SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30.

GAIETY THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT, at 8 punctually, RUY BLAS AND THE BLASE ROUE. Miss Ellen Farren, Miss Marion Hood, Miss Sylvia Grey, Miss Eva Greville, Miss Linda Verner, and Miss Blanche Massey; Mr. Fred Leslie, Mr. Fred Storey, Mr. Dalton Somers. Doors open at 7.30.

TERRY'S THEATRE.
(Proprietor and Lessee, Mr. EDWARD TERRY.)
(Management, Miss GRAHAME.)
TO-NIGHT, at 9, NEW LAMPS FOR OLD. Messrs. W. S. Penley, Bernard Gould, W. Lestocq, and F. Kerr. Mesdames Cissy Grahame, Houston, and Gertrude Kingston. At 8.15 THE PARTING OF THE WAYS. Mesdames M. A. Giffard, Helen Leyton, Rose Dorning, Oscar Adye, and J. Nelson. Doors open 7.45. Carriages at 11. Box Office open 10 till 5. Acting Manager, Mr. H. J. BIRCHWELL.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT, at Nine, THE BUNGALOW, by FRED HORNER. The greatest success of modern times. Received with roars of laughter and thunders of applause. At 8.15, ON TOAST. Doors open 7.45. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.15. Doors open at 2. Gala night, Friday next.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)
THIS EVENING; at 8.0, LONDON ASSURANCE. Immense success. 132nd Night. Mr. George Alexander, Messrs. Mariot, J. L. Shine, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Abingdon, Arthur Lyle, Theo. Balfour, M. Bode, H. Russell, James Rass, W. Northcote, J. Northcote, &c.; Headdresses Miss Murray, Mary Rorke, Kate James, Charlotte Ellis, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.0. THE MARRIED BACHELOR, at 7.45.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. THOMAS THORNE.)
THIS EVENING at 8, CLARISSA. Mr. Thomas Thorne, Messrs. T. B. Thalberg, Cyril Maude, Oswald Yorke, J. S. Blythe, Harbury, F. Grove, F. Gillmore, and Fred Thorne; Mesdames Winifred Emery, Mary Collette, C. Owen, L. Bryer, F. Wentyss, Lily Hanbury, Eva Banister, &c.

THE GLOBE THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager Mr. F. R. BENSON.)
THIS EVENING, at 8.0 Doors open 7.30, THE TAMING OF THE SHREW. Messrs. Bleck, Athol-Forde, Stuart, Phillips, Gurney, Rose, Shaw, Benson, Weir, Howard, Grenville; Mesdames Benson, Grey, Hawkins, Denvil. MATINEES TO-DAY and NEXT THURSDAY AT TWO. Doors at 1.30. N.B.—A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM EVERY EVENING at 8 (Thursdays and Fridays excepted), and WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY MATINEES, at 2.30.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.
MASTER AND MAN.
TO-NIGHT, at 7.45, Henry Pettitt and GEORGE R. SIMS powerful play, MASTER AND MAN, in which the following popular artists will appear:—Messrs. Henry Neville, J. H. Barnes, Robert Pateman, Brandon Thomas, Sidney Howard, Charles Dalton, Barnett Rose, Fred Shepherd, George Dalziel, E. Mayeur, E. Webster Lawson; Miss Nellie Lingard, Mrs. Frank Huntley, and Miss Bella Pateman. Doors open 7.15. Commence 7.40. Box-office (Mr. A. Frye) open daily from ten till five. Seats at all the libraries.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, MAJOR JOHN. Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mdme. Amadi and Miss Camille d'Arville; Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Joseph Tapley, Henry Ashley, Frederick Wood, Nort James, T. G. Shale, A. T. Hendon, and Harry Monkhouse. Preceded at 7.30 by JOHN SMITH. Morning Performance EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Telephone No. 2,700.

GARRICK THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN HARE.)
THIS EVENING at eight, LA TOSCA (NINE PERFORMANCES.) Mesdames Fernand Beere, Rose Leclercq, Bessie Hatton; Messrs. Lewis Waller, Herbert Waring, Sidney Brough, Gilbert Trevor, Lindsay Dorward, Jack Dodsworth, C. Hosken, F. H. Haight, F. Powell, R. Power, S. Pringle, R. Harding, and J. Forbes Robertson. Address application for seats to Box Office, open from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Doors open at 7.30 P.M. MATINEES of LA TOSCA SATURDAY NEXT, February 15, and Friday, February 21, at 2 P.M. precisely. Seats can now be booked. Acting-Manager, Mr. C. G. COMPTON.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.
Messrs. E. S. WILLARD and JOHN LART, Lessees and Managers. Proprietor, Mr. JOHN LANCASTER
THIS EVENING at 8, THE MIDDLEMAN.
Mr. Willard, Messrs. Mackintosh, H. Cane, H. V. Esmond, Ivan Watson, Cecil Crofton, Royston Keith; Mesdames Maude Millett, Annie Hughes, E. H. Brooke, Agnes Verity, St. Ange, Eva Moore, &c. Box-office now open daily, 10 to 5. Doors open 7.40. Carriages 11, Acting Manager, Mr. W. H. GRIFFITHS.—SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

LYRIC THEATRE.
(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. HENRY J. LESLIE.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.20, THE RED HUSSAR. Mesdames Marie Tempest, Birdie Irving, Maud Hillard, H. Coveney, and Florence Dysart; Messrs. Ben Davies, Alec Marsh, Albert Christian, J. La Hay, Frank M. Wood, and Arthur Williams. Preceded at 7.30 by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING at 9 P.M., the celebrated Comedy PINK DOMINOS, adapted by JAMES ALBERY, with powerful cast, including Messrs. Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby, A. Ironsides, &c., and C. H. Hawtrey; Mesdames Century, Robertson, Cowell, Alma Stanley, and Rose Saker; preceded, at 8, by ONE SUMMER NIGHT, by F. W. Broughton. Box office open daily from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. Telephone, 3,764.

COURT THEATRE.
(Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.)
TO-NIGHT, at 9, 181st performance of AUNT JACK. Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. F. Mervin, Mr. Percy Cape, Mr. A. Ayesworth, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. F. Farren, Mr. Powell, Mr. W. Quinton; Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Florence Wood, and Mrs. John Wood. At 8.15, TO THE RESCUE, Mr. E. Bunyn, Mr. F. Farren, Miss F. Harrington and Mrs. Phelps.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Under the Management of Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, FOOL'S MATE. At 9 o'clock, DR. BILL.
Messrs. Frederick Terry, Nutcombe Gould, Benjamin Webster, George Capel, Henry Grattan, and Albert Chevalier; Mesdames Ashton, Carlotta Leclercq, Marie Linden, Mary Kingsley, Gracie Murrisde, Laura Graves, Edith Kenward, and Fanny Brough. Doors open 7.45.
MORNING PERFORMANCE SATURDAY NEXT, and EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.
Doors open 2 o'clock. Box office open daily from 10.30 till 5.
Business Manager, Mr. R. D'ALLERTON.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE.
"ASMODEUS," at 9 o'clock, and "OUR ARMY AND NAVY," at 10.50. Signorina FRATTINI and RAVELLI, the Sisters Sutton, M. Sisti and sister, Lyla, Arthur Tinsley, Alma George. Open 7.30 until 11.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.
Commence at 8. Two Grand Ballets. At 9.0 THE PARIS EXHIBITION. At 10.20, A DREAM OF WEALTH, by M. KATTI LANNER. Music by M. LEONCO WANGEL. Dallois, Fabulino and Bettina of Stella, Signor Albertieri and Signorina Malvina Cavalazzi. Grand Divertissement. At 10, Miss Amy Roselle will recite THE DANDY FIFTH; A STORY OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR," by FRANK GASSAWAY. No free list.

ROYAL: Holborn.
GRAND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.—Special engagement of Lockhart's performing Elephants, the lovely Continental clowns; the Manzonis, in a novel musical absurdity; Yeltsins, the wonderful Brun Feldmanns, American variety artists; Cottaway and Pepper; Alec Daniels, musical clown; Matsunoske dancers; Sam Torr; Deane Brand, operatic vocalist; Maude Appleblatt; G. Beresford, comic, and others.
EVENINGS at 7.30. SATURDAY MATINEES, 2.30. Prices of admission from 9d. to 4l 4s.

THE DOMINION OF AUSTRALIA.

We are glad to see that Mr. HENNIKER HEATON gave notice yesterday of his intention to move at the earliest moment possible for a Select Committee upon the question of Imperial Penny Post. Of all the countless Bills introduced and notices handed in yesterday none is more pregnant than Mr. HEATON'S scheme for cheapening the communications of the Empire. But it is important to note that his present proposal touches only half of the work that has to be done. Cheaper postage is, perhaps, the more immediately practicable half of that work. But cheaper cables are, probably, the more important half. The Ocean Penny Post will be an immense thing for the prosperity and unity of the Empire; but after all no reduction in the price of letters can eliminate the obstacle of distance, and a correspondence in which it takes three months to get an answer can never be the same thing, no matter how cheap it may be, as a correspondence in which an answer to a letter posted one day comes the next. The more distant correspondence will always remain the more distant: in every sense of that term, the more infrequent, the less intimate. What puts Canada and Kent on an equality is not the post-bag, but the telegraph wire; and to carry the post-bags cheaply, whilst still maintaining prohibitive tariffs for the telegraph-wires would be a very incomplete improvement of communications. To have cheap fares on lumbering luggage-trains is better than nothing. But no system of communication is perfect which does not also include cheap expresses.

The evil effects of the prohibitive cable-rates between the mother country and its colonies are forcibly illustrated by the meagre and scrappy reports which are all that reach us day by day of the Conference now sitting at Melbourne for the foundation of the Dominion of Australia. Mr. GLADSTONE referred yesterday to the prospect of "the colonial possessions of her Majesty in Africa becoming in no way unworthy to compare with those in North America and Australasia in their magnitude and importance." It is one of the few, doubtless inadvertent but nevertheless unfortunate, omissions in his speech that Mr. GLADSTONE did not go on to give some expression of sympathetic interest in the attempt now being made to place "the possessions of her Majesty" in Australasia on something of the same federal footing as that on which those in North America have for nearly a quarter of a century been based. In one respect, indeed, there is an inaccuracy in the analogy which makes it dangerous to use even in a passing reference. "South Australia," said her representative at Melbourne yesterday, "will never agree to Federation on the lines of Canada." And so, no doubt, say all the Australian colonies. In Canada the Local Legislatures have only such powers as are left over by the Dominion Legislature. The Australian Colonies when they federate will infallibly adopt the American model, and leave the Local Legislatures supreme in all that is not expressly delegated by them to the Federal Power. But though the means may be different, the end is the same. The Federal principle has in Canada triumphed over certainly not less difficulties than any that obstruct it in Australia. Its recognition in the latter case will be at least as important as its adoption in Canada, and not very much less important in the future history of the world than its adoption in the United States. The Conference now sitting in Melbourne may not be successful, but it will sow the seeds of future success. It is, therefore, an event of supreme importance in the English world. Yet the newspapers in the capital of that world are forced to dispose of it in fifty lines a day, whilst telegrams of escapades in Paris and plots in Sophia run riot through column after column. The disparity is absurd, but it is bound to continue until the reduction of the prohibitive rates for Oceanic cables is taken in hand as a matter of Imperial concern.

Meanwhile one has to take such information as one can get, and on the whole the proceedings at the Melbourne Conference seem so far to have been more harmonious and more hopeful than most people expected. The standing difficulties in the way of Australian Federation hitherto have been the jealousies of New South Wales and Victoria, and their conflicting financial policies. Sir HENRY PARKES has done something to bury the former obstacles by accepting Melbourne as the place, and Mr. GILLIES as the President, of the Conference. As for the tariff difficulty, the peculiar circumstances of the time, in Victoria and New South Wales alike, have combined to diminish it. Victoria, it is thought, would not be sorry to get a free market for its manufactures; and Sir HENRY PARKES would not be sorry to so far agree with his political adversaries as to purchase inter-Australian Free Trade by Protection outside. As for the mother-country she can do little in the matter except, whenever opportunity arises, to make the path of Federation smooth and acceptable. One such opportunity might be made out of the question of trust investments in Colonial Stocks to which Lord ROSEBERY alluded in a letter read at an Edinburgh meeting of the Imperial Federation League yesterday. Mr. GOSCHEN is believed to object to enabling trustees to invest at present in colonial securities. If so, he should at least let it be understood that his objections would disappear if a Federated Australia were to enter—as has been proposed—into a joint guarantee for the debts of all its "United States."

IN THE CITY OF DIAMONDS.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN SOUTH AFRICA.)

I. ADAMANTIA AS IT WAS.

One day, rather more than twenty years ago, a trader outspanned at a farm between the Vaal and Orange rivers, and noticed a pretty white stone in the hands of a Griqua serving-lad—

A something pottle-bodied boy
That knuckled at the taw.

The stone fetched £500. It was the "First Diamond." The Griqua urchin was innocently playing chuck-farthing with the destinies of South Africa. Stones a hundred times as valuable have since been found, and its diamond treasure-land has greatly made the fortune of Cape Colony. The next find, a few years after, was the Countess of Dudley's "Star of South Africa," valued at £25,000. That brought a rush of prospectors, who began scratching the ground in all directions. Soon the green banks of the Vaal were lined for miles with a genteeller sort of "Roaring Camp." There to this day diamonds of the purest water are found; and the "river diggings" numbered their ten thousand in 1870, when suddenly a discovery was made which turned the whole industry upside down—the discovery, about twenty miles away to the south, of the Dry Diggings. Where Kimberley now stands with its population of perhaps fifteen thousand (nearly half of whom are workers in the mines) there were three farms in the flat, bushy plain, the names of which or of their owners, were presently immortalized by the proclamation of the Diamond Mines of Du Toit's Pan, Bultfontein, and De Beers. Since the day in July, '71, when the first pick was struck into the hawthorn-crowned "kopje" (or knoll) which then stood where the Kimberley mine now yawns, there has been dragged out of its depths, according to the estimate of the best authorities whom I have asked, no less than thirty million pounds' worth of diamonds, and there is no reason to suppose that those mines stop short, say, of the middle of the earth. The growing world may lack bread as time goes on. Diamonds it will have in plenty. Those who ask for bread may then indeed receive a stone, and Macaulay's New Zealander, when he goes to sketch the ruins of St. Paul's, may find it easier to deck his squaw with brilliants than to stop his children's mouths with bread.

Kimberley and De Beers are the only "mines" in the sense of shafts driven underground. The others are still in the quarry stage. Take Du Toit's Pan, which I went to see as an example of the "open working." There yawned at my feet a huge oblong hole of, say, twenty acres in extent, sloping at the top, sheer lower down, and rounded somewhat at the bottom. There, three hundred feet below, the Kafirs like a swarm of black ants toiled at their work. As they loaded the large buckets with the precious earth these were hoisted to the surface along quivering and sounding wires that stretched down the abyss. I have seen photographs of Kimberley Mine in this stage. That was the day of the "Individual Digger." Parcelled out into hundreds of separate claims, each man working his own at his own level with his own hauling gear, the higher claims undermined and crumbling, the few "roads" left standing here and there across the pit all tumbling into ruin—Kimberley mine at that period must have looked like the inside of a gigantic Stilton, fancifully carved by some great cheese-scoop, and all spun over by a metallic spider with an inextricable network of wires. Open working is of course the cheaper way. Why was it abandoned? The mines, like other mines, had their vicissitudes. They have become lakes of water and furnaces of fire; they have quivered to terrible explosions, and have been threatened with ruin by share manias rivalling the mad folly and disaster of Law's Mississippi scheme or the South Sea Bubble. But the worst calamity of all—the calamity before which the most sanguine and ingenious spirits long stood paralyzed—was the falling of the Reef. "Reef" is the name given to the shale, which encloses for the first 200 feet the diamond-bearing ground overlying the hard rock which really forms the confines of the mine. As the great hole sunk lower and lower, the beetling cliffs left standing round it began to totter and fall, burying, as it seemed, the fortunes of De Beers and

CHIT-CHAT FROM THE CONTINENT.

Perhaps the most successful product of the Eiffel Tower mania is the splendid copy of the iron original which has been erected in glittering ice on the Neva, at St. Petersburg. It is fifty metres high, and made of 10,000 blocks of ice. There is a restaurant on the first platform, and when lighted up by electricity the effect of the Tower is said to be magnificent. It is the most popular place of outdoor amusement among the gay world of the Russian capital, where most of the winter amusements are held on the ice.

* * * * *

Prince [Dolgorookoff, the Governor-General of Moscow, is about to celebrate, in a very elaborate way, the twenty-fifth anniversary of his post on, which, for importance, is equivalent to a vice-royalty. The prince is one of the most popular and respected of Russian State officials, who spends his large revenues in the most lavish manner. One of his predecessors was Count Zagreliski, the father of Alexandre Dumas's famous heroine in "La Dame aux Perles."

* * * * *

While Parisians are discussing the great question as to whether dancing is a fit amusement for our intellectual age, the dancing season at St. Petersburg is in full swing, and the number of the balls and soirées dansantes is quite endless. Indeed, Russian young ladies are so passionately devoted to dancing that at the end of a season the majority are hustled off, pale and unnerved, to the South of France, to regain health and strength before once again they begin their butterfly existence. Russian ball-rooms are of a size compared to which even Parisian *salles de bal* are small, and a single turn round the hall of assembly of the Russian nobility is equivalent to twenty rounds in an average ball-room.

* * * * *

In the ball-room of the Winter Palace 3,000 persons can dance with ease, and the White Room, where the last court ball was held, holds about the same number. The scene at the recent ball, at which all the ladies appeared in white, without any other ornaments than diamonds or pearls, must have been very effective. The Empress herself, surrounded by her hundred maids of honour, was the "fairest of the fair" and danced part of nearly every dance.

* * * * *

"Bismarck's last waltz" forms a very picturesque page in Mdme. Carette's new volume of memoirs of life in the Tuileries. It was in 1867, when the King of Prussia visited the Paris Exhibition, a ball was given in his honour, and while the cotillon was being danced Prince Bismarck stood aside and looked on, when Mdme. Carette stepped up to him, offering a bunch of roses, thereby implying that in the "ladies' tour" she invited him to be her partner. The flowers were accepted, and Bismarck waltzed with his lady through the crowd, to the astonishment and amusement of all present. When the dance was over the great man took an artificial rosebud from his button hole, handed it to the lady with the words, "Will you keep it in memory of the last waltz I shall ever dance, and which I shall not forget."

* * * * *

The billiard-table has recently been sold at Cassel which belonged to King Jérôme at the time when that jovial monarch was King of Westphalia. Cues, balls, markers, and the table are all well-preserved, and bear the Royal and Imperial arms.

* * * * *

I pointed out the other day that some prizes of the Paris Exhibition tombola were of a very modest kind, and rather disappointing to their recipients. But their discomfiture was small compared to that of the gentleman who, being a great smoker, was delighted with the announcement that he had gained a "magnificent smoking apparatus," which turned out to be a halfpenny Marseilles pipe and three pennyworth of tobacco. A "trousseau for a young man" was the euphemistic name for six paper collars, and a small china pot for the toilet table went by the name of a "precious vase."

* * * * *

On the anniversary of the death of the old German Emperor, William I., the mausoleum at Charlottenburg, which has been considerably enlarged, will receive the remains of the Emperor and the Empress Augusta, the extension having only just been completed. All the members of the Imperial family who are at Berlin will be present at the consecration of the new part of the building, and the Grand Dukes and Grand Duchesses of Baden and Saxony have also intimated their desire to attend.

* * * * *

Mdme. Tacon, the governess of little King Alphonso, and of his father before him, has just received the title of Countess of Peralta for her devotion to her pupil during his recent illness. The lady is seventy years old, and has been in the Royal family of Spain for half a lifetime, and is, indeed, "quite one of the family" of the Royal household. The arrangements for taking Alphonso XIII. to the South for the rest of the winter are being continued, but in Spain things move very slowly, and it is not improbable that it will be April before the final decision as to where to go to has been arrived at.

Kimberley beneath their crushing mass. Excessive competition, meanwhile, had reduced the price of diamonds to its lowest ebb. The fortunes of Kimberley hung in the balance. Only one thing could save them—amalgamation. But that, with so many and such conflicting interests, seemed at first impossible. The man who solved the difficulty was a young fellow who had recently taken a pumping contract in De Beers, Guided by Mr. Cecil Rhodes and by his fellow-worker Mr. Beit—both of them now millionaires—the De Beers Company began secretly and steadily, through agents, to acquire the main interest in all the others, until one fine day it was found that they were masters of the situation. Remoulding itself into the "De Beers Consolidated," with a trust-deed empowering them to engage in any and every undertaking conducive to their end, the company in this way amalgamated first De Beers and then all the other mines into one colossal syndicate. A few last outstanding companies were being bought in the very week I spent in Kimberley; and as the company has acquired also a preponderant interest in the only other diamond diggings which need be considered, it controls to-day the diamond industry of the world. Shafts have been sunk to depths of seven and eight hundred feet through the fallen reef and through the hard mass outside the mine; the price per carat of diamonds has been doubled; the joint yearly output amounts to three and a-half million pounds' worth a year; and while buying water at a fabulous rate, and coal at £9 a ton; while paying wages to the tune of £20,000 a week, with total working expenses of £130,000 a month, the company anticipates an annual profit of £2,400,000, and after paying 5½ per cent. on its 24 millions of debentures, divided 10 per cent. in August last for the six months to June 30, on its share capital of £3,950,000.

II.—SCENES FROM THE DIAMOND MINES.

The mines are simply pipes, bored up to the surface while Mother Earth was yet a-boil, piercing the common shale and basaltic formations of the country, and filled with a sort of blue cake, in which the plums are diamonds. The half-baked cake apparently simmered up and down in the pipe, with enough pressure to crystallize the carbon in it, but not to boil altogether over at the top. Broken bits of the case through which it pushed—"floating reef" they are called—were embedded near the top, which was in each mine funnel-shaped. Below the funnel the pipe runs straight into the bowels of the earth without much bulging or hollowing of the sides. The "blue ground" in which are the plums is a not very hard rock of a dull French grey in colour.

The first thing, then, is to blast the blue with dynamite. This we can see done in the open workings. We are standing at the edge of Du Toit's, which I have already described. The warning bell has rung; Kafirs and whites have streamed up into the searching room; here and there at the bottom of the great hole a puff of smoke, a spark of light, picks out the fuses slotted here and there over the floor. Every fuse has his appointed lifetime; then and there a few men in charge take a last look and then flee to shelter. Presently, with deafening roar after roar, begins the fusillade. Masses of ground heave with a burst of smoke, tremble, and crumble into gaps. Stones are thrown up almost to our feet. For ten minutes the great noise flaps and buffets round the chasm. Then another bell rings; the smoke clears away; and for twenty-four hours there is peace. Enough blue has been loosened for the next day's work.

Now let us see this ground brought to the surface. We are at the top of De Beers—at present the best organized of all the mines. What a change is here from the early days when the ground was hauled up by a Kafir at a windlass or a horse at a "whim." Here is an engine of 1,500-Kafir power, which has sometimes hauled out as much as 9,000 tons a day—a record unequalled anywhere else on or under earth, as I am proudly assured by Mr. Nicholl, the underground manager, who has come here from a crack Tyneside coal-mine. Up and down like a jack-in-the-box pops the great skip, dashing 700 feet down at every journey, to return with 6 tons of "blue," which at the top with a prodigious somersault it tips over into an attendant line of trucks. As I stand watching, suddenly there appears beside the skip a case like a very large double coffin, in which are packed, like figs in a box, three or four damp, hot, and soily figures. They emerge—a party of young English peers who, like myself, are visiting the diamond marvels. When my turn comes to be coffined, it happens that I have to descend alone; and a queer sensation it proves. I lean back in the slanting shaft, taking care to protrude no hand or foot; a caution, a signal, then gentle motion, and the brilliant sunshine fades away. Once or twice on the way down my eyes are startled by a glimpse of dim-lit chambers with darkling figures mysteriously toiling, or my ears deafened by the rattle of the ponderous skip as it plunges up and down past the slower lift at headlong speed. At length (it was not many minutes really) I stood 700 ft. beneath the ground, at the place where the skip is loaded for the ascent. There I saw a remembrable scene. Here the passages of the mine converge upon a sort of oblong hell-mouth, tapering funnel-wise to discharge into the skip below. The jaws of this are four-trucks-wide, four trucks going to a load. Here stand four herculean shapes, and as the stream of full trucks from the various tramways reaches them, these four seize each a truck, force it against the lip of the hole, and all together, with a shout, upset the weighty convoy. Instantly they drag back the empty trucks, to be pushed away each by its own Kafir for refilling in the dark and sloppy labyrinths. A sign, meanwhile, has throbbed a telephone-room above, and almost before it has touched the bottom the skip, with its six tons on board, is on its upward race again. The dusky giants—strong, cheery, docile, sweltering naked or half naked at their pauseless task, the cries, the shifting flare and gloom, the whole strange scene of struggle in the bowels of the solid earth, made for me a *tableau vivant* of Virgil's famous picture of Vulcan and his monstrous ministers singing and swinging hammers in the mountain's heart.

At the surface the precious blue is run in trucks by an endless rope to the drying-grounds, which are some miles away and some square miles in extent. Each truck-load—sixteen cubic feet, or about a ton of "blue"—conceals on an average a carat and a quarter of diamond, ranging in value from 3*s.* 6*d.* to £20 a carat. On the "grounds" the "blue" is softened by the sun and rain, broken with picks, and then conveyed back to begin the process of reduction, which magically transmutes each ton or two of dull and heavy earth into a tiny brilliant, destined, perhaps, to flash from the forehead of an empress—or, more probably, from that of Mrs. Hiram P. Binns, spouse of the latest "Sausage King."

First, the ground goes into the washing machine—the primitive "cradle" on a large and perfected scale—the working of which depends on the fact that the high specific gravity of the diamond makes it behave differently from other stones under the joint action of centrifugal force and gravitation. Spun round in perforated cylinders and pans under a whirlpool of water, the bulk of the ground flows off in "tailings" of grey mud. The residue of divers stones of divers sorts and sizes is then jogged about with more water in the "pulsator," an evolution, I think, from the primitive "baby." The machine is a huge framework of graduated sieves and runlets, which sorts the divers stones into several sizes, and after much percolation delivers each uniform lot at a separate receptacle. After the pulsator, there remain a number of "dry-sortings" and re-sortings on various tables, by hands both black and white, all under lynx-eyed surveillance, the pretty red garnets and other valueless pebbles being swept off by dozens with a bit of tin, the diamonds dropped into a sort of locked poor-box; until finally the coveted hoard, all scrutinized, classified, and valued, lies on the office table of the company on its way to their impregnable safes. Thither let us follow it to bid farewell. The room is lined with clean kitchen dressers, on which you will please imagine a number of little white heaps of washing soda lying on sheets of white paper, ready to be done up. The soda, which in fact is so many uncut diamonds, worth several thousands of pounds, is shovelled about in handfuls, as if were on a grocer's counter.

"Here," says one of the directors, as he reverently unties a parcel of the very choicest stones—a sort of "cuvée reserved,"—"here are some that the dealers would give their eyes to get hold of. But we like them so well that we mean to keep them by us." Stones that seemed purity itself before looked mere glass when set beside these imperial brilliants.

"What have been your champion diamonds?"—"The 'Porter Rhodes,' a pure white octahedron of 150 carats, valued at £60,000; and the stone exhibited at the Paris Exhibition which, when uncut, weighed 428 carats, that is, 2¾ ounces. If you put into the scales together all the diamonds that have come from the mines since they were opened the mass would weigh some seven tons."

"And who, now that the crown jewels of Europe are pretty well filled up, are your best customers?"—"Turks and Asiatics, and native princes generally, for yellow stones; Americans for white ones. And the Celestials are now beginning to buy diamonds."

III.—THE FUTURE OF THE MINES.

Looking at Kimberley as an outlet for English labour and capital, we see at once that by this syndicate, as by most, labour will, at least directly, be a loser. The losers at first sight are those who have to buy their diamonds dearer. But diamonds are a luxury pure and simple. When a man decides to spend £10,000 on a diamond necklace he doesn't stop to think how many carats he will get for his money. Time was when (leaving out the cost of cutting) he would have got 10,000. Thanks to the syndicate, he now gets only 5,000. But he just goes to Hancock's, or whatever is the crack place, and orders the best necklace he can get. No: the real loss will be that of the labour displaced at Kimberley. I have spoken of one man being richer than another. Now, you see, it would be very glad to work even a poor diamond mine as long as it paid at all. Not so the syndicate. They are bought by these two conditions—1, the treasure is inexhaustible; 2, the production is controlled. Their business is plainly, having decided how much to produce, to produce it as cheaply as possible. Now, in speaking of the richness of a mine there are several factors to be considered—how large the cake is, how thick the plums are in it, how much each plum is worth, and how much it costs to get it out. The following table was kindly drawn up at my request by Mr. Phillips, who after playing a part in the amalgamation of Kimberley, has come to do likewise, I suppose, at Johannesburg—

Mine	Present area in square feet	Yield of carats per load	Present market value per carat	Per load: Cost of working + debentures	Profit net
Kimberley	170,000	1½	40*s.*	10*s.* + 5*s.*	45*s.*
De Beers	250,000	1¾	40*s.*	10*s.* + 5*s.*	55*s.*
Du Toit's Pan	700,000	1·5	56*s.*	4*s.* + 0	7*s.*
Bultfontein	400,000	1·3	40*s.*	4*s.* + 0	9*s.*

What does this table mean? Simply this. The company has to get out a certain number of diamonds. It can get them from whichever mines it pleases. But it can get them from Kimberley and De Beer's at four or five times more profit than from the other two. Commercially, therefore, the £20,000 a month which it spends in working Du Toit's Pan and Bultfontein is largely thrown away. In reality it is so much spent in charity, in order to ease the syndication through and make the displacement of labour gradual. True, there is some return. But when, in no long time, the reef falls in, open working ceases, and the return disappears, what then? Du Toit's Pan and Bultfontein will be closed, and Kimberley and De Beers will supply the world.

Now, the world spends £4,000,000 in diamonds every year; and as year by year it grows more wealthy and more populous it will certainly, unless the taste dies out, not spend a penny less. As for the taste dying out, human nature is likely to be for some time longer pretty much what it has been for the last four thousand years. That is, it will continue to covet among precious stones the stone which is the brighest, the hardest, the heaviest, the coldest, and, above all, the dearest, and in which, because of its white, neutral purity, all other gems are set. The world, then, will go on buying its £4,000,000 worth of diamonds every year, and of those at least £3,500,000 worth will have to come out of Kimberley and De Beers. That, at £2 the carat, means 1,750,000 carats from the two, or roughly 1,300,000 loads. That, at 15*s.* a load, means a total of yearly working expenses of about £1,000,000. That leaves a net yearly profit of 2½ millions of money; or, taking the capital as £4,000,000, about 60 per cent.—the best mining investment, I suppose, in the world. The syndication then, will at least benefit the impoverished aristocracy who have family diamonds to sell. And I will add, since the company has the largest interest in the new "John Company," that it will also be of benefit to the future of South Africa. For this means that behind the enterprise, which is filling every colonial imperialist with new life and hope is the Pocket without a Bottom.

(The preceding letter from South Africa—on "The Dutch Parnell and his League"—appeared on February 4.)

A CRY FROM SIBERIA.

IN connection with the lurid stories which have recently reached Western Europe from Siberia, and with the "Russian Committee" described by Dr. Spence-Watson in our columns the other day, we publish below some extracts from a letter which we received not long ago from Russia. Mr. Gladstone asked yesterday for further information on the subject. Our correspondent's statement is, it will be seen, specially addressed to the admirers of "Gladstone and Byron." "I hope," says the writer, "that you shall kindly forgive and correct the offences against the noble English language that may occur in this letter from a foreigner." We have thought it better to forgive, rather than to correct, and to publish the extracts precisely as they are written:—

In the spring of this year in the town Yakoutsk, the principal town of a district of the same name in East Siberia, a bloody event took place, that brings to light with a terrifying evidence the frightful barbarity with which the agents of the Russian Government treat the defenceless sacrifices of the tyranny which throws yearly hundreds of noble men and women, old and young, in the "toundras" (deserts) of Siberia, giving them up to famine, cold, despair, and to the worst of all evils, to the tyranny of the administration of Siberia. Thirty and one persons, men and women, without any show of judgment, banished to East Siberia, following their way through Yakoutsk, were bloodily attacked at the order of the Vice-Governor, Mr. Ostaskin, by a group of soldiers, who acted with guns and bayonets against defenceless men and women, what resulted in six killed and wounded, of whom five (wounded) died on the same day.

It is from a long time that the Government of Russia has made it his usual practice of banishing all the persons which have in any wise displayed some independence of thought or sympathies to liberty, but against whom even for Russian law and Russian justice it is impossible to find out any ground for a judicial persecution, to the remotest quarters of Siberia. The party was to be transported to such places as Yarensk, Olekma, &c., at a distance from Yakoutsk of 3,000 to 4,000 "werst," and it is but through months long and with great difficulties and perils for life that it is possible to make the way to such places. It was before a practice to give some money for providing food for such a long journey, to declare the time of going out some weeks before, not a little time being necessary for making all preparations in such an isolated point as Yakoutsk, and to permit to carry baggage in an illimited quantity. Unfortunately, this year all these privileges were refuse by the Administration. The Vice-Governor of Yakoutsk, Mr. Ostaskin, found these privileges superfluous, suddenly declared that the party must in these days go out without money and food and prohibited to carry with them all their baggage. The banished sued for delay. Their suit was refused as a "collective" one. In Russia to sue in a collective form, though not forbidden by the law, is yet a grave offence. They repeated their suits each separately. The head of the police declares that their suits are refused, as composed by all in the same style, and that therefore they must instantly set out. Astonished, the assembly refuses. It is called by the head of the police comes the Vice-Governor, Mr. Ostaskin, attended by soldiers. The refuse repeated, he proclaimed in a grossly insulting style that they shall be put to the way violently, and from word to deed he orders the soldiers to tie them up, attending his order with such invectives and outrages as in no other civilized country can be heard from the mouth of a public officer. It was too much. The feeling overstrained, burst. One of the assieged, mad with indignation, gave a shoot on the author of the violence, who was lightly wounded. Immediately the soldiers were ordered by the Vice-Governor to fire on the thick crowd of the assembled in a narrow room, with the consequences already described. These are the names of the killed and wounded:—(1) Killed: Podbielski Pappius, Verewnikh Sophia (a woman), Piek Sergei, Mouchanow Peter, Noblin Jakob, Shour Grigori; (2) deadly wounded: Cohan-Bernstein Leon, Minor Joseph, Moc Michail, Fundaminski Matthew, Orlow Michail, Zotow Nicolai, Estrowitch Joseph; (3) wounded and imprisoned: Canther Sergei, Zoroastrowa Anna (a woman), Frank Rosalia (a woman), Bolotina Anissia (a woman), Berman Leonid, Hassock Wiera (a woman), Shechter Vassonia (a woman), Gourewitch Eugenia (a woman), Gourewitch Alexander, Hufland Michail, Ratner Samuel, Kauffman Albert and his wife, Eramson Moses and his wife, Jereshkiewitch Konstantin, Estrowitch Michail, Heiman Boris, Braginski, Perli Paulina (a woman), Baranowa (the wife of the deadly-wounded Rohan).

In Russia to cry is a crime, and to incline the ear to a cry is no less a crime. And a silent voice is strangled here: it is gone abroad. In the name of justice and humanity we appeal to all civilized nations, with whom love of freedom and rights of man are sacred feelings, and active noble indignation is a duty to all who have heard the voice of Byron and Gladstone for the oppressed of every country, we appeal. Let this cry be heard!

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OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The Queen's Speech as it should have been written might be constructed from Mr. Gladstone's masterly survey of the political situation by which he yesterday opened the debate on the Address. He has seldom made a more judicial and luminous presentation of the leading points in controversy between the parties. Among these we are glad to see no foreign questions are included. Mr. Gladstone's declaration in support of Lord Salisbury's action in the Portuguese dispute draws the teeth of Mr. Labouchere's amendment. Mr. Gladstone, however, imperfectly remembers the controversy which led to the abandonment of the Congo treaty, by which, in exchange for concessions on the Congo, Portugal defined the river Ruo as the extreme limit of her possessions on the East Coast. It is true there was "agitation" against it in this country, but the treaty was dropped at last owing to the objections of Prince Bismarck and the American Government.

In Home affairs Mr. Gladstone drew the cheers of his supporters by his declaration that the tithe was national property. He was vague about "assisted education," but energetic in asserting the necessity of a representative element in the new Scotch private bill tribunal, and quite vehement in favour of the sub-distribution of power in local administration "down to the parochial unit." Alike abroad and at home, Mr. Gladstone's manner was conciliatory and amiable. He has come in like a lamb. He will go out like a lion.

So the "free schools kite" was a kite, but it has come down with a rush. "On the subject of assisted education," said Mr. Smith yesterday, "public opinion was not yet fully declared." Which, being interpreted, means that the Government having put out a feeler which has met with a very mixed reception, have decided to wait for a more convenient occasion. Which, we should add, may never occur; for of times and surpluses knoweth no Government. As educationalists we are sorry, for every delay in Free Schools means a loss of efficiency. As Liberals we are glad; for the lead in what will be a very popular move now reverts to our side.

The new Portuguese despatches throw no light upon the question whether or not the forces of Major Serpa Pinto have cleared out of Makololand. Lord Salisbury's skill as a dexterous controversialist is shown very clearly in the despatch in which he impales the Portuguese Government on the dilemma of Article 12. Either Makololand is within the free zone or it is not. If it is, and Article 12 applies, then the Portuguese, by appealing to arms without first appealing to arbitration, have broken the Act of Berlin. If it is not, and Major Serpa Pinto was merely putting down a rebellion in Portuguese territory, then Article 12 does not apply at all. In any case the Portuguese are out of court. We regret that Mr. Labouchere should damage a good cause by attacking the wrong Government. It is to the Portuguese not to the English Ministers that his remonstrances should be directed.

The Duc d'Orléans has made his manifestation, and been sentenced, and the only thing that now remains is for M. Carnot to pardon him. This would be the generous, but also the prudent course. The young Duke's move was a clever one in itself, and he has played it very well—with effect, and yet with modesty. Undoubtedly he will be the Hero of an Hour. It is for the Government to see to it that he does not also become a martyr. The only way for the Republic to turn the advantage scored by the young Orleanist in getting himself imprisoned, is to show the magnanimity of releasing him.

The Paris correspondent of the *Standard* is no admirer, it would seem, of Balfourism. Discussing the probable prison treatment of the Duc d'Orléans, he says:—

The code makes a wide difference in the treatment meted out to political offenders and to prisoners condemned for misdemeanour or crime. Moreover, President Carnot and every member of his Cabinet are able and sensible men, and it would be an insult to their understanding, as well as to their good sense and good feeling, to imagine them capable of inflicting on the Duc d'Orléans a treatment reserved by the law for thieves and burglars.

As the principle which President Carnot and his Cabinet are said to be too able and sensible to dream of adopting is the very pith and essence of Mr. Balfour's Irish policy, it follows that the *Standard* has but a poor opinion of the ability and sense of Lord Salisbury and his Cabinet.

In the press of other matter, it is to be feared that most readers will overlook the fact that Sir George Trevelyan made a most important addition last night to the unauthorized programme of the Liberal party. Speaking at the National Liberal Club, he said:—

As far as he had considered the matter, he was in favour of the payment of a moderate stipend to county councillors, or at any rate an allowance for their expenses.

When the principle of sub-distribution of power is carried down to the parochial unit, are the parish councillors also to have "at any rate an allowance for expenses?" At this rate the tradition of unpaid service will soon become extinct.

Very curious it is to see how ambitious all the crowned heads are becoming of being Socialists in disguise. The Emperor of Austria, it is announced this morning, claims to have been the originator of the Kaiser's new policy; for as far back as 1871, when he suggested through Count Beust to Prince Bismarck that an international understanding should be arrived at between the Governments of Europe to meet the wants of the working classes so far as they were legitimate, but to suppress agitation by the full rigour of the law. It may be; but if so, the real credit of the initiative is due to the much-abused founders of the original International, whose agitation it was that in 1866 and 1870 first compelled the attention of crowned heads to the necessity for action.

The remarks made by the mover of the Address yesterday afternoon in dealing with the subject of the rehousing of the poor, are an excellent illustration of the mental muddle of the so-called orthodox school of State economists. "It is not the duty of the State," said Mr. Royden, "to provide employment for the working classes, but the State may justifiably take measures for the improvement of the conditions under which its citizens live." This being interpreted, means that the State may provide cheap houses for impecunious persons out of the general taxation of the country, but it may not put these same persons in the way of earning a living for themselves. In other words, it is right to spend any amount of public money on charitable doles to the poor, but wrong for the State to try and convert the poor into self-supporting citizens. Mr. Royden had so much time to think over his speech, that he ought to have done better than this.

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TWO "GREAT WRITERS."*

DR. GARNETT'S "MILTON."

A new life of Milton can scarcely be considered a necessity. It is better than that—a luxury—when it comes to us from such capable hands as Dr. Garnett's. The book is mainly, as it should be, pedestrian in style; but the sober narrative flashes out, here and there, with that curious kind of wit, cynical and scholarly, of which its writer has the secret. Clear, sharp, sensitive but unsympathetic, it can, like steel, shine merely or bite. It is to be regretted that Dr. Garnett, "cumbered with much serving," has not found more opportunity for its display. In one volume, "The Twilight of the Gods, and other Tales," it does, indeed, both shine and bite, brilliantly, bitterly, boldly, almost as if Heine himself were wielding it. That volume, and that volume alone, shows the full capacity for original work of a writer who is too generally thought to be merely a scholar. To be a scholar is a great thing; but to be a scholar only is to have laid the foundations of a house which, somehow, you neglect to build.

The volume before us is, perhaps, on the whole, more the production of the scholar than of the man of letters. Writing after Professor Masson, Dr. Garnett has, naturally, very little to contribute in the way of facts; it only remained for him, writing after Mark Pattison, to pursue a fresh line of thought. This he has done, and it is this that justifies the existence of his book. Pattison's conception of Milton was something like that expressed in a famous line of Wordsworth's, only he considered that Milton's soul *should* have been "like a star and dwell apart," but that it had a bad habit of finding its way among men. Dr. Garnett, with greater justice, we think, contends that without Milton the political pamphleteer we should have had no Milton the poet of "Paradise Lost." The great poets are not the pale creatures of a cloistered existence, out of reach of the world. Let Milton speak for himself: "He who would not be frustrate of his hope to write well hereafter in laudable things, ought himself to be a true poem—that is, a composition and pattern of the best and honourablest things, not presuming to sing high praises of heroic men or famous cities, unless he have within himself the experience and the practice of all that which is praiseworthy." The man who wrote that was certainly "himself a true poem" during those eighteen songless years which preceded "Paradise Lost." He gave his eyes for his country, and if the country gained little, at all events Milton gained much. He had learnt what life had to teach him, and now he is laid aside in the shade, to rest, to remember; and the poem may come now. All this Dr. Garnett brings before us very clearly; and, alike in his treatment of the pamphleteering period, the matrimonial difficulties, and that other trouble-some question of the daughters, he maintains, and to our thinking justifies, a higher conception of Milton than the common one. It is pleasant that this should be so, for the book will certainly become, as it deserves to be, the popular life of Milton.

MR. OSCAR BROWNING'S "GEORGE ELIOT."

Mr. Oscar Browning's brief life of George Eliot is a plain and unpre-tending piece of work, giving the known facts succinctly, without much comment or analysis, except for a chapter of literary criticism at the end. "No attempt will be made," he says, "to relate new facts in her life. The life written by her husband must remain for a long time the received and invariable account. To relate new facts imperfectly verified, and uncorrelated with the whole story of the life, might gratify an unhealthy curiosity, but would conduce to misrepresentation." In other words, the writer of the memoir before us has practically limited himself to the task of giving a réchauffé of Mr. Cross's three volumes of "Life and Letters." The question remains whether this was altogether worth doing. For the general reader, the book will be useful; those who profess to be somewhat more exacting than the general reader may perhaps wish that Mr. Browning had done either a little more or a little less. There was no necessity (unless in the editorial shape of Mr. Marzials) why the book should be written at all; if it had to be written, the necessity of artistic conscience—in other words, the claims of truth—might have demanded that it should be done thoroughly, honestly, searchingly, without fear or favour. Mr. Browning has adopted the middle course: he has written with what is called "reticence and good taste," and he has turned out, as we have said, a very tolerable article.

One "new fact imperfectly verified" Mr. Browning has, however, admitted into his pages. George Eliot was once, he says, "at a period which I have not been able to verify, engaged to an artist whose subse-quent career made it a happiness to her that the marriage was never carried out." Who was this artist? and how much truth is there in the story? queries that "unhealthy curiosity" which has the strange taste to prefer definite facts to vague insinuations.

Mr. Browning's chapter of literary criticism is clever and interesting, if not convincing. It is mainly an argument on behalf of the "new and widened" art which he conceives George Eliot to have attained in her later work. He has the originality to consider "Daniel Deronda" her masterpiece, and he states a number of satisfying reasons why it *might* have been her masterpiece. "Is it not reasonable to believe," he says, somewhat naively, "that, in the maturity of her mind and the height of her influence, she would in writing 'Deronda' have braced herself to a supreme effort, have nerved herself to satisfy the claims of the highest art, and to soar with no common or slender pinion beyond the Æonian mount?" The question is not whether George Eliot, in Mr. Browning's curious metaphor, selected a "common" or an uncommon "pinion" on which to soar; the question is, how far she succeeded in soaring. Mr. Browning thinks that "Daniel Deronda" is "the sum and glory of her art." We venture to think that it was an attempt to do what she could not do. It is a splendid failure. The book which might really be put forward as the sum and glory of her art is a book which Mr. Browning does not even name in his list of possible favourites—"The Mill on the Floss." Here, in a book not faultless, George Eliot has given us herself—the tragedy of her deepest nature, the comedy of her earliest surroundings; she has painted the life that she knew, and it is more than a picture—it lives. No other book of hers is so vivid, so intense; none is so individual.

* "Life of John Milton." By Richard Garnett, LL.D.—"Life of George Eliot." By Oscar Browning. ("Great Writers" Series.) (Walter Scott. 1890.)

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review should such seem to be necessary.]

BARNUM, P. T. "Struggles and Triumphs; or, Sixty Years' Recollections of P. T. Barnum." (Buffalo: The Courier Company.)
[Illustrated and brought up to 1889. Cloth. Pp. 760.]

BLAKE, J. "Tables for the Conversion of Five per Cent. Interest." (Longmans, Green, and Co.)
[Cloth. Pp. 150. Price 12s. 6d.]

"ELECTRICAL TRADES' DIRECTORY, 1890." (*Electrician* Office.)
[Lists of persons engaged in the electrical and allied trades, tables, biographical sketches. (Cloth, Pp. 704, lxxxiv. Price 5s.)

H. R. H. "Prince Maurice of Statland." (Remington and Co.)
[A story in one volume. Cloth. Pp. 266.]

KERSLEY, GEORGE HERBERT. "A Little Book." (Bickers and Son.)
[A volume of verse. Cloth. Pp. 92.]

MANNING, CARDINAL. "National Education." (Burns and Oates.)
[Reprinted articles. Cardinal Manning desires a comprehensive law which shall give ample and efficient education to our children; at the same time firmly guard both the liberty of conscience and the vital heirloom of Christianity. Boards. Pp. 48, iv.]

PALGRAVE, REGINALD F. D., C.B. "Oliver Cromwell, the Protector." (Sampson Low, Marston, and Co.)
[An appreciation based on contemporary evidence. Cloth. Pp. xxix., 320.]

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City Notes.

THE SPECULATION IN PIG-IRON WARRANTS.

The speculators in pig-iron warrants have been experiencing a bad time. Several failures have occurred in Glasgow in consequence of the extraordinary drop in prices, the quotation having gone down 15s. per ton from the highest point touched within a month. The extraordinary thing is that warrants are considerably below the cost of production, but buyers are holding off, and weak holders are unable to carry the stock with money at its present high level. Including rent, interest, and other charges, the cost of carrying the stocks in public stores will run up to something like £300,000 per annum. It was sanguinely hoped towards the close of the year that 70s. per ton would be reached, whereas it is now down to 52s. There is for the present a dearth of shipbuilding orders, and in other departments work is being held back, but it is not at all likely that trade has been permanently checked by high prices, and a rally may be looked for with some confidence.

THE OPPOSITION TO THE CENTRAL LONDON RAILWAY.

There is an opposition to the opposition to the Central London Railway. The Vestry of St. Marylebone recently passed a resolution to oppose the scheme, and to throw the cost of doing so on the rates; for, although the inhabitants of Oxford-street are in some way expected to contribute one-half of the expense, it is presumably only a voluntary contribution on their part. Many of the ratepayers in the parish, however, strongly object to any ex-penditure from the rates for such a purpose, as they consider that a railway from the West-end to the City would be most desirable for the general public, and would even be of advantage to Oxford-street, from a number of the trades-men in which thoroughfare the opposition comes. Those who are moving in the matter propose holding a public meeting of rate-payers of Marylebone to protest against the vestry's resolution and to consider what action should be taken in regard to the railway. The meeting will be held on Friday, the 21st, at St. Mary's Hall, Crawford-street; and Sir Thomas Farrer will preside. Even ratepayers who are neutral on the railway question object to the proposed expenditure by the vestry.

A NEW COLONIAL FIBRE INDUSTRY.

Some months ago the Governor of the Bahamas, Sir Ambrose Shea, wrote home a long letter, pointing out that the colonial authorities had granted a bounty of £4 13s. 4d. per ton on all Sisal fibre grown on and exported from the islands, and urging upon British capitalists to come forward and take steps to place the industry on a sound and substantial basis. We now hear that a combination has been formed, which contem-plates planting 10,000 acres on one of the islands with this valuable and rapid-growing fibre plant. Climatically the Bahamas are better adapted for the cultivation of Sisal than even Yucatan, where the pro-duction of the fibre has undergone remarkable development of late years, in consequence of the demand for the article. The plant grows wild and on the poorest soils. After the ground has been cleared and the shoots inserted, no further cultivation is needed. In three years the plant attains maturity, and continues to live twenty years afterwards, furnishing crop after crop of leaves containing fibre equal to the best manilla. Neither rain nor drought affects the plant, nor yet frost, while the prickles in its leaves protect it against animals of every kind.

Among the powers taken in a bill promoted by the Clergy Mutual Life Office is one to enable it to distribute bonuses at shorter periods than five years.

The Ladies' Corner.

WRINKLES ABOUT WIGS.

There has lately been invented (writes a lady representative) a feather-weight wig. It has a fringe; the hair is short and is made up into small curls, and it entirely dispenses with the necessity of doing the hair. Novelists who write about the beginning of the present century always count it a virtue to their hero or heroine that he or she wore his or her hair instead of the usual powdered wig. Those writers who supply us with records of fashionable life nowadays would have a difficulty in confirming this detail; for you can't tell whether a fashionable woman is wearing her own hair or not, so cunningly are these ten-guinea wigs made.

It must not be supposed that women wear these wigs to guard against a jibe similar to that which was so fatal to those little boys who told the pro-phet to "go up," and reminded him of his baldness. Nothing of the kind. Of course, a good many wigs—the majority of wigs probably—are worn to conceal defects; but they are also largely worn by women who don't want the trouble of doing up their own hair. Why, at the big Drawing-room last year, my informant said, there were thirty of his wigs walking about. Of course a wig can be dressed on a block, and it is made so artfully on an elastic foundation that it fits too tightly for the difference between the false and the true to be discovered. "Here," said the hair-dresser, "here is a wig I am making for an old lady with silver-grey hair. When she goes visiting to houses where she does not care to take her hair, she will take this with her; and she will have her hair dressed in two minutes."

I asked what was the best hair for wig-making. "French," was the answer. "Only French hair is any use. Russian and Italian are no good for Englishwomen; they are both too coarse. For myself, as a German, I think that Englishwomen have poor hair; but this I put down to their exces-sive meddling with it—too much brushing and combing and washing—than to any natural defect." Here the wig-maker held up a bit of French hair that had been bought off the head of a girl—perhaps a latter-day Fantine—in France by a travelling hair merchant, and said, "I shouldn't like to say this had ever seen a brush." Coming to another topic, I asked what he found the average colour for wigs. "Medium brown, undoubtedly. But I always try to persuade a woman for whom I am making a wig to have a colour that will match her own hair. This is the most natural, but sometimes it is the most impossible course. Sometimes a woman will have a wig about two shades lighter than her own hair for evening wear, but this is permissible. It is when a red-headed woman wants raven black tresses that the thing becomes nonsensical." "Now about the fringe; do you think the fringe is going out?"—"No; there is not the slightest fear of that happening. The fringe is so fashionable that I have to keep thirty different patterns. Englishwomen need a fringe—so many of them have high foreheads. It is only women with low foreheads who can afford to brush their hair severely back."

WANTED: CHEAP "ART" WALL-PAPERS.

Where will the new elegance in wall papers stop? We have already papers heavily weighted with gold and silver tinsel. These papers are very costly from the metal alone, not to mention the paper and the printing and the designing. Some very elegant papers are now displayed of a pattern to match the cretonne in a room. In fact the cretonne is imitated with such fidelity that there is no telling the difference by sight; touch alone tells the tale. These papers are made to order when the house is being furnished. The patterns are usually very pretty. These papers cost about ten shillings a piece. They are grained to look like silk, and covered with carnations, or roses, or cornflowers, or poppies. These are the favourite patterns. In colour, yellow, mixed with a darker shade, is found to be very popular. The designing of wall papers for better-class houses has been a fine art. It is a pity that there is not some one who will invent a series of cheap pretty papers to replace those wall coverings absolutely without design or colour, and almost suicidal in their dreariness, that prevail in the houses of the lower middle classes. When a jerry builder out of the ordinary run does resolve to "do the artistic thing," and add a pretty wall paper to his elegant exhibitions of stucco, he usually chooses something full of colour and arsenic. But, as a rule, the wall-papers in small houses are entirely destitute of colour; they are ornamented with sprigs of something called a pattern (which the most diligent search in a book of botany would fail to reveal), and thus they perpetuate that melancholy strain of thought that usually prevails among the melancholy English people.

Bord's Pianos.—3s per cent. discount for cash, or 13s. per month (Second-hand, 13s. 6d. per month) on the three years system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 72, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN. Wm. Pianos exchanged.

"DE OMNIBUS REBUS."

YESTERDAY AFTERNOON IN THE COMMONS. (BY AN OBSERVER.)

After the explosion of Tuesday night, yesterday's sitting was not very lively, and hon. members showed their appreciation of the fact by a very thin attendance. It was virtually a first night, pushed into a second, with all its pretty genialities and formalities, and the friendly fencing with the buttoned foils preparatory to the real clash of arms. Almost the only glint of the steel that pierces was Mr. Cuninghame Graham's announcement—provoked by an evasive answer of Sir J. Fergusson's—that he would, in an amendment on the Address, call attention to the non-participation of the Government in the Swiss Labour Conference. But when in answer to Mr. Cremer's ques-tion about the Portugnese quarrel, the Under-Secretary said, that "the matter in dispute is not one that in the opinion of her Majesty's Government can properly be referred to arbitration," he was greeted with cheers from both sides of the House.

A PENT-UP SPEECH.

The mover of the Address, Mr. Royden, was clad as befitted the solemnity of the occasion, in a suit of sable velvet, and the rather funereal effect of this dress was emphasized by the portentous gravity of the speaker's tones. The House listened silently, as in courtesy bound to do, but it did not learn much. Lord Brooke, who seconded the Address, was a much more attractive speaker and spectacle. He was dressed in the becoming uniform of the Warwickshire Yeomanry, and stood up and spoke out in a way which pro-duced a very favourable impression on his maiden speech. He commenced his speech by alluding with some pathos to the fact that he had been kept waiting to deliver it through the whole of the previous day's sitting; and doubtless even the most experienced Parliamentarian would find it a hardship to sit all night long with a formal speech buttoned up under a uniform pain-fully conspicuous among the sober civilian dresses around it.

THE PRELIMINARY HAND-SHAKE.

Following on these two formal speeches came, as is customary, a moderate, non-partisan speech from Mr. Gladstone, whose speech was almost chatty in style, and quite conciliatory in tone. He began by saying that he had more praise than blame to award to the Government for what they had done, and the blame, such as it was, he reserved for what they had left undone. In the first place with regard to Portugal, while deploring that a quarrel should have arisen between England and her "ancient and weak" ally, he thought that, on the whole, her Majesty's Government had only done what they were compelled to do in defence of English rights. Possibly, however, it might have been better if Lord Salisbury's despatches had been less peremptory in tone, and Mr. Gladstone smilingly suggested that Parliament might with advantage establish a censorship of Foreign Office despatches.

OUR FUTURE AFRICAN EMPIRE.

Passing on to other portions of South Africa, Mr. Gladstone alluded to the growth of the British population in the Transvaal, predicted that the time would come when the "South African possessions of her Majesty may become comparable both in magnitude and in importance to those of North America and Australasia." It is worth noting, too, that the ex-Premier, under whose rule the Transvaal was surrendered, insisted on the claim of English residents in that country to share in the suffrage.

"THE UNSPEAKABLE TURK."

Crete next came in for a few words of comment, and Mr. Gladstone com-plained that the Government had made no mention in the Queen's Speech of the terrible condition of this island. He had never been in favour of sweep-ing away the Turkish Empire, but if the present anarchy continued, he saw no issue but the separation of Crete from the direct rule of the Sultan. In the same strain he dwelt on the Armenian atrocities, and the "mockery of justice" achieved in the farcical trial of Moussa Bey. Passing from Turkish misrule to Russian, Mr. Gladstone expressed the hope that the horrible reports of the treatment of Siberian convicts were exaggerated, but pressed for information.

IRELAND AND TITHES.

With regard to Ireland Mr. Gladstone said much less than might have been anticipated—he seemed to shrink from this controversial ground—but the little that he did say went to the root of the matter. He congratu-lated the Government on having at last resolved to deal with the question, but added, "If the measure they propose be conceived in a niggardly spirit it will only give material for fresh agitation." In an equally concise sentence he hinted at the sort of opposition that the Government would meet with to their land purchase scheme. "I notice with satisfaction that the Government promise that their scheme shall be attended with 'due financial precautions,' and I hope that this condition will not be overlooked later on."

One of the most noticeable points in Mr. Gladstone's speech was the declaration that he regarded the tithe as "national property." In what sense this phrase was used Mr. Gladstone did not fully explain. But, coming from such an ardent Churchman, it is a significant announcement.

THE OMISSIONS.

Mr. Gladstone had hitherto been completely and imperturbably amiable—with an amiability, one could not help thinking, some-what mixed with the wiliness of the "Old Parliamentary Hand" on the search for a clue—but now he came to the omissions, and a change came over the spirit of his dream. There were four serious omissions. 1. There was no reference to the extension of local government in England and Scotland. And yet had they not been promised in the "gracious Speech" of 1889 the creation of district councils, and was it not urgent that the decentralization should go down until it touched bottom in the "parochial unit"? 2. And was not an increase of powers as desirable as an increase of machinery? 2. The second omission was the want of any satisfactory Allotments Act. The present law was "totally unsatisfactory" (Mr. Gladstone afterwards expressed similar dissatisfaction with Mr. Ritchie's proposed measure). 3. Why was there no reference to free education? It there was no intention, what meant Lord Salisbury's talk of "assisted educa-tion"? If there was an intention, why was there no mention? 4. Where was the Sugar Convention? It had vanished, "not only into shades, but into darkness." And yet Baron De Worms—an infant Privy Councillor—was already enjoying his reward—"itself a stamp, seal, and sign fixed on the Convention." In 1889 her Majesty had been made to say that it would be necessary—a strong word. Surely this was "some strange act of forgetful-ness," an omission which only needed pointing out to be corrected. All this was said in a tone of the lightest and most graceful banter, which the Oppo-sition thoroughly enjoyed.

BUTTER AND BLARNEY.

As is usual on such occasions, Mr. Smith rose immediately to reply to the leader of the Opposition. He was in the amiablest of his amiable moods, and, beaming on Mr. Gladstone, recognized in him one who realised his position as "only second to that of the responsible Government." Mr. Smith was going on to accept Mr. Gladstone's congratulations in regard to foreign affairs, but the old Hand carefully excepted Portugal. After this little hitch, the *entente cordiale* suffered a decrease; but Mr. Smith claimed that the Government had made a "prompt, clear, and vigorous" assertion of the rights of this country at the proper moment—which was far more merciful than a "temporizing, doubtful, and hesitating" policy. As to Turkey, Moussa would be tried again—thanks largely to Sir William White's influence—and the Government hoped that the agitation would not be renewed. But they would have papers on both matters. As to Siberia, there was no information to hand, and it was a difficult matter on which Mr. Smith had evidently not been primed. In Africa the chief interest of their policy were respect for aboriginal rights, support of English subjects, and good government. It would be difficult to obtain the franchise for English residents in the Transvaal. As to tithes, he was delighted to be in agreement with Mr. Gladstone—it was almost impossible to believe that he had ever differed from him—that they were a national property. And Mr. Smith prudently refrained from going any further into the matter. As to a District Councils Bill, was it not ready—up their sleeve? And had not Mr. Ritchie an excellent little Allotments Bill? (Mr. Gladstone shakes his head). Free education was unripe, but the time might come, and the effects of public discussion were sometimes remarkable, &c. And then, after a little sermonette on his own devotion to his duty and his country, and the general haughtiness of everybody else, and of the party-system in particular, Mr. Smith sat down without having said anything that could pain the most sensitive of God's creatures.

NOTICES.

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Announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths are inserted for 5s. each.

COVENT GARDEN.—Lessee, FREEMAN THOMAS.—GRAND CIRCUS, under the direction of AUGUSTUS HARRIS and FREEMAN THOMAS.—The famed Trained Lion on Horseback (the great sensation of Paris), with the most Marvellous Mastiff ever seen, Wonderful Siberian Bears, 20 Highly-trained Horses and Ponies, Con-Con and his Wonderful Pig, Jessica, the Graceful and Champion Wire-walker, The Hoffman Sisters (Horizontal-bar Performers), Sylvester (Renowned Jockey Rider), Grand Military Spectacle, ALL AT LAND. TWICE DAILY, at 2 and 7.30. Prices from 6d. to £3 3s. Box-office open daily 10 to 5.

SAVOY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, R. D'OYLY CARTE. THIS and EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, the entirely original Comic Opera in Two Acts, entitled THE GONDOLIERS, by W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN. Doors open at 8. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Box-office open daily from 9 a.m. till 11 p.m.

MINNIE PALMER'S MATINEE SERIES begins SATURDAY, February 15, with MY BROTHER'S SISTER. ONLY IN FUN. MINNIE PALMER as a BOY. MINNIE PALMER as a GIRL.—GAIETY THEATRE. Mr. DOUGLAS COX representing Miss PALMER.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sir Wonderful Performing Elephants. Last Week. Mr. Adair and Lilian (Graceful Ariel Gymnasts), the Six Sandersons, M. Gervais Le Roy (the Marvellous Beggar in Rags), the Leopolds (Aerial Wonders), Fred. Paulton (the Strong Man from America), the Sisters Lorvan (in their performance on Mr. Farini's Head), Mr. Farini's Wonderful Dogs, the Brothers Beno and their Dancing Mice, Miss Amy Tilby (Riding-Change Artiste), Professor Cross (Phrenologist), etc. Twice daily, at 2 and 7. Open at 12, close at 11.30 p.m. Admission 1s., children 6d. Magnificent Novel Illusion on view all day.

THOUGHT READING EXTRAORDINARY.—Dr. ONOFROFF, the Remarkable Psychologist, will hold receptions to-day in the Theatre of the ROYAL AQUARIUM about 4 and 9. BECKWITH'S ENTERTAINMENT at 3.30 and 8.30.

MADAME TUSSAUD AND SONS' EXHIBITION. Adjoining Baker-street Station.—PORTRAIT MODELS of H.M. KING ALFONSO XIII. of Spain, GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA, LORD MAYOR OF MADRID (as taken in Madrid), Models of Celebrities of all ages and nations. Monster Lucky Tub, free prizes to all children. Priceless collection of Napoleonic Relics. New Smoking and Reading Rooms, luxuriously furnished. Organ Recitals at 12, 2 and 6 o'clock. Orchestra from 4 to 6 and 7.30 to 10.30. Admission 1s. Children under 12 6d. Open from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m.

MADAME TUSSAUD and SONS.—Unique Relics of the French Revolution of 1789.—Models taken from the Heads of Revolutionists, by Mdme. Tussaud's own hands. Jarvis Berry, the Executioner (taken from life) now added. Mrs. Maybrick now added. CHAMBER OF HORRORS.

PANORAMA of WATERLOO and EXHIBITION of RELICS, Ashley-place (Westminster). BATTLE of WATERLOO.—GRAND PANORAMA painted by Chev. P. FLEISCHER. OPEN DAILY from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Entrance 1s., extra Saloons from between 10 and 6, when the charge is 2s. Mrs. Hess's celebrated LADIES' ORCHESTRA will give a vocal and instrumental concert from 4 to 5 & 30, and 8 to 11 p.m. daily. James Dodd, VERGER and Sole Surviving Non-combatant survivor of the Great Battle is present at the Panorama daily.

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ART GALLERIES.

CATHEDRAL TOWNS and PICTURESQUE PLACES in GERMANY and ITALY.—WATER COLOUR DRAWINGS by EDWARD H. BEARNE, made in 1883 and 1888. ON VIEW at THOMAS McLEAN'S GALLERY, 7, HAYMARKET. Admission, including Catalogue, 1s. (Next the Haymarket Theatre.)

SPORTS AND ARTS EXHIBITION, GROSVENOR GALLERY, New Bond-street, W. NOW OPEN. Ten to Seven. Admission 1s.

TUDOR EXHIBITION.—Patron, H.M. the QUEEN; Vice-Patron, H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES. NOW OPEN. NEW GALLERY, Regent-street. 10 to 6. Admission 1s. Hon. HAROLD DIXON, Secretary.

HOTEL LIST.

GRAND CANARY HOTEL SANTA CATALINA.—The finest winter climate in the world.—Has charming hotel faces the sea, and is surrounded by its own beautifully laid-out grounds. The hotel is replete with every modern improvement, and the sanitary arrangements leave nothing to be desired. Information may be obtained and plans seen at the offices of the CANARY ISLANDS CO., 11, Adelaide Pountney-street, London, E.C.

CANARY ISLANDS.

OROTAVA GRAND HOTEL, SANATORIUM, and HEALTH RESORT, TENERIFFE. SEASON 1889—1890.

The Taoro Hotels Company (Limited) have acquired the above Hotel, as also the Marquesa, and Buena Vista. They are now under entirely new and English management, and contain 200 bedrooms, Lawn Tennis, Billiards, Riding and Driving. Pure water, dry and bracing air. Finest climate in the world. Absolutely no winter. There is a Resident English Chaplain (Rev. Canon Hall, M.A., late Chaplain to the English Legation, Oldenburg, and M.D. Cantab.), near the Hotel. Reduced tariff. For terms and further particulars, address the Manager, Sanatorium Puerto Orotava, Teneriffe, or the Company's agents, Messrs. Sinclair, Hamilton, and Co., 17, St. Helen's-place, London, E.C. Telegraphic address, "Taoro," Puerto Cruz, Teneriffe.

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BARNUM and BAILEY will LEASE OLYMPIA, completely fitted for immediate exhibition purposes, for their unexpired term, to wit, from Feb. 24 to April 7 next.

"MYSTERIOUS RUMOURS OF STRANGE FOREBODINGS"

The London correspondent of the *Birmingham Gazette* sends the following portentous paragraph to his journal:—The air is full of mysterious rumours of strange forbodings. What they will mean no man knows; but on all sides in the House of Commons there seems to be an apprehension that something startling is about to take place. I have made inquiries, and can throw no light on the subject at this moment, except in the statement that it is believed we are passing through a political crisis so far subterranean that only the faintest rumblings reach the surface, and that in a few days either they will cease, or we shall be, so to speak, in the air. The question is much too serious to be ignored, and yet it is a little annoying not to be able to make it intelligible.

MRS. GLADSTONE'S NOTES ON THE PARNELL COMMISSION.

All who had business in the Probate Court when the Special Commission was proceeding remember that Mrs. Gladstone, who was for a long period a most regular attendant, daily occupying the corner seat in the jury-box, occupied herself in making copious notes of the proceedings. Mr. Bowden, the old usher whose death was recently recorded, always supplied the writing materials: and, from the commencement to the conclusion of the sittings, Mrs. Gladstone diligently scribbled on her small pieces of paper. These (says the London correspondent of the *Birmingham Post*) have been formed into a unique little volume, which was shown to me while in St. James's-square early in the week. The tiny book is very neatly bound, and every page is carefully numbered and arranged. Mr. Gladstone places a priceless value upon the volume, the contents of which he mastered day by day as the pages were brought home.

The Prince and Princess of Wales visited the Avenue Theatre last evening to witness the performance of "Dr. Bill."

Earl Sydney has passed a very restless night and continues to be extremely weak, but he has no pain.

FOURTH EDITION.

CANADIAN REPRESENTATION AT ST. STEPHEN'S.

A MOTION IN THE DOMINION SENATE.

A Dalziel's telegram from Ottawa says:—In the Senate yesterday Mr. Boulton gave notice of a resolution declaring that the time had arrived when Canada should be granted the privilege of representation in the Imperial Parliament and the Privy Council. The motion proposes to give the Dominion and Provincial Governments the right to appoint a representative holding a seat in the interests of Canada.

THE DUC D'ORLEANS' SENTENCE.

The sentence of two years' imprisonment passed upon the Duc d'Orleans by the Correctional Tribunal yesterday is discussed by the Paris newspapers this morning. The Republican journals approve the sentence on the ground that the Duke violated the law. Several of them consider that in view of yesterday's demonstration a pardon or a reduction of the penalty is out of the question. The *Estafette* advises the Government to shape its resolutions according to the attitude of its adversaries.

The Comte de Paris has telegraphed from Porto Rico to the imprisoned Duc d'Orleans: "I think of my dear prisoner and my heart is with him." This message implies neither approval nor disapproval.

The *Journal des Debats* expresses the hope that the Government will not allow itself to be deterred by the provocations of the Royalists from exercising its right of clemency. The *République française* takes the ground that public opinion is perfectly indifferent in the matter. The Royalist newspapers regard the sentence as monstrous, on account of the noble feelings by which they consider the Prince is inspired. The *Soleil* says that the country will judge and will declare that laws contrary to justice should not exist. The *Figaro* admits that the law has been applied with moderation, but hopes that public opinion will insist upon the Prince being pardoned. The Boulangist organ *La Presse* also believes that a pardon must be granted.

ANOTHER CRUISER ASHORE.

A Reuter's telegram from Zanzibar says:—H.M.'s cruiser *Conquest* has run ashore on the coast of Pemba Island and lies in a bad position. H.M.S. *Cossack* and *Algerine* have proceeded to her assistance.

A PULLMAN CAR TRAIN WRECKED.

A collision occurred yesterday between a Pullman car train and an ordinary passenger train near Coaling, Alabama, both engines and a number of cars being wrecked. One person was killed and twelve injured.—*Reuter.*

TINPLATE WORKERS' STRIKE.—3,000 MEN "OUT."

Twelve hundred tinplate workers in the Tyrcanal and Morriston districts have to-day struck work in consequence of a reduction in wages of one penny per box of tin plates. Work is suspended at several of the other works owing to over-production. Upwards of three thousand workmen are thus thrown out of employment.

LORD STANLEY OF ALDERLEY AND SUNDAY HOCKEY.

A Dalziel's telegram from Ottawa says notice has been given of a Bill to enforce the better observance of the Sabbath. This step is regarded as an attempt to discredit the Governor-General, who allows hockey-playing at Rideau Hall on Sundays.

"THE GOSPEL OF WEALTH."

Mrs. Hetty Greene, the eccentric millionaire, who personally conducts her business in Wall-street, has been interviewed at Chicago. She admitted being worth nearly 50,000,000 dols. (£10,000,000). She owns land in nearly every city in the United States, and says there is nothing like land as an investment. She added: "I am a very happy woman, and the Lord has blessed me above others. I think I make good use of my opportunities, for I have endowed over a hundred churches and founded fifty schools. I give away my substance without ostentation. I belong to a Quaker family, which has been wealthy for the last five generations."—*Dalziel's Agency.*

A MEMBER OF MR. MOODY'S CONGREGATION SHOT.

A tragedy has occurred in Chicago in connection with the congregation of the church of Mr. Moody, the evangelist. One of the choristers, named Hattie Hind, was shot by a man whom she had tried to reclaim. The man afterwards committed suicide.—*Reuter.*

THE NEWFOUNDLAND DISPUTE.

There is every chance (the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* learns) of a renewal between the French and English Governments of a *modus vivendi* with regard to the Newfoundland fisheries question which will be accepted by both parties, and as it were renew the lease of mutual forbearance.

THE PITTSBURG IRON MILLS.

A Dalziel's telegram from Pittsburg says:—The iron mills are now running full capacity. There is an increasing demand for nails and material for galvanised pipe, and the orders in hand amount to 90 per cent. more than this time last year. One firm asserts that it produced last year more iron than any firm ever before produced, and, moreover, spent £600,000 on improvements.

THE NEW JUDGE TAKES HIS SEAT.

In the Queen's Bench Division this morning Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams took his seat for the first time on the bench. The court was crowded, and there was a large attendance of Q.C's and junior barristers, headed by the Solicitor-General. His lordship merely bowed to the court and took his seat.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON BREAKFASTED IN OXFORD.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson, who spoke at a public meeting at Oxford last night, was entertained at a public breakfast this morning by the Sheriff of Oxford in the Town Hall, when the Hon. James Munroe presided, Sir William Hunter and many of the members of the Corporation and leading citizens were present.

A CURIOUS STORY.

Warrants have been issued at Lathrop, Missouri (says a Reuter's telegram), against forty-five female members of a temperance crusade for causing damage to a number of drinking saloons. The male members have armed themselves, and declare that they will prevent the arrest of the women.

VOLCANIC ERUPTION IN JAPAN.—DAMAGE £700,000.

Advices from Japan state that Mount Zoo is in eruption (a correspondent of the *Shipping Telegraph* says). At the first the top of the mountain was uplifted, and stones and earth were hurled for a distance of six miles around. Thirty-five houses were destroyed, and damage was done to the extent of £700,000.

PRINCE ALEXANDER OF BATTENBERG AND THE AUSTRIAN EMPEROR.

A Reuter's telegram from Vienna says:—Prince Alexander of Battenberg has left for Budapest in order to have an audience of the Emperor.

THE TAXATION OF THE PARNELL v. WALTER COSTS.

The London correspondent of the *Glasgow Herald* understands that the damages agreed upon between the parties in the Parnell *v.* Walter libel action were paid the same evening by the defendant, a cheque for £5,000 being despatched at once by post by Mr. Soames to Messrs. Lewis and Lewis. It may be twelve months hence before the costs are paid, as they have to go through the elaborate and tedious process of taxation, which in this case will be especially lengthy, as the interlocutory proceedings were very numerous, and were in each case carried on appeal from court to court. One newspaper libel action was settled by an apology and an agreement to pay costs more than two years ago, in which not a penny has yet been paid on account of costs, as the taxation is not completed.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor of Wales will join the 10th Hussars at Newbridge during the ensuing summer.

The London correspondents now place the Dean of Gloucester in the running for the vacant see of Durham.

It is reported that steps are likely to be taken in the present session of Parliament to transfer the Lord Chamberlain's authority in the matter of theatres to the London County Council.

THE NATIONAL LIBERAL FEDERATION'S

COMMENTARY ON THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME.

A fully attended meeting of the General Purposes Committee of the National Liberal Federation was held at Parliament-street yesterday afternoon for the purpose of considering the Queen's proposals of the Government for the ensuing session, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That this committee sees with regret that the programme of the Government for the ensuing session, as set forth in the Queen's Speech, fails to recognise the pressing needs of the people either of Great Britain or Ireland. The committee believes that the just aspirations of the Irish nation cannot be met by the extension to the sister isle of a modified system of local government nor by the employment of British money in the buying out of Irish landlords. A programme which consists of another Conservative Tithe Bill, a measure for cheapening the transfer of land, a bill to facilitate the passage of private legislation for Scotland, and one for the improvement of procedure in winding up insolvent companies, however good the measures may prove to be, cannot take the place of legislation on subjects of such urgent importance as the simplification of the registration laws, the provision of free education, the establishment of district and parish councils, an extension of powers to the governing bodies of London and other great municipalities, and a proper adjustment of the present inequitable burden of taxation. The committee records its belief that an appeal to the country will conclusively demonstrate that, both in their Irish policy and in their attitude towards English reforms, the Government, by the aid of the Dissentient Liberals, are holding office, not only in violation of their pledges at the general election, but in direct opposition to the wishes of the majority of the electors."

MR. PARNELL'S AMENDMENT TO THE ADDRESS.

The amendment to the Address of which Mr. Parnell has given notice is in the following terms:—"Humbly to represent to your Majesty that the happy growth of peaceful and amicable relations between the people of Ireland and the people of Great Britain has been grievously impeded by the unjust exasperating, and futile administration, not only of the exceptional and repressive legislation of 1887, but of the ordinary criminal code, by her Majesty's Government in Ireland; that, notwithstanding the long-continued train guilt of the country, considerable sections of the Irish people are still harassed with the invasion of their liberties, and alienated from law by the conduct and character of many of its administrators; that large bodies of the Irish tenants, whose sufferings brought about the Land Act of 1887, are debarred from the benefits of that Act, deprived of the right of combination and public meeting, and subject to the miseries of eviction, in the interest of a landlord combination, the whole of their repeatedly expressed readiness to submit the justice of their claims to any court of arbitration, and humbly to regret that in her Majesty's gracious Speech from the throne there is no proposal to alleviate the legitimate discontent of the Irish people in these respects."

LLANERCH EXPLOSION.—300 WIDOWS AND CHILDREN.

Operations are still in progress at the Llanerch Colliery, Pontypool, but the explorers are still unable to recover the body of the missing boy. The total number of the victims now ascertained is 177, leaving upwards of 300 widows and children.

MR. "ABINGTON'S" ACTION AGAINST THE PELICAN CLUB.

Mr. "Abington" has commenced an action in the Chancery Division against the Pelican Club, in reference to the recent proceedings in which his name appeared. A motion is pending before Mr. Justice Stirling in connection with the case. Sir Charles Russell and Sir Horace Davey have been retained as counsel for Mr. Baird.

IS EYRAUD IN AMERICA?

A despatch from Montreal states that Eyraud, the suspected murderer of M. Gouffé, was staying at the Hotel Richelieu in that city last September in company with a woman whom he registered as his daughter, but there is no reason to doubt was really his mistress, who has since betrayed him. They passed under the names of Monsieur and Mademoiselle Vanyerd. They left the hotel together, and early this month Eyraud returned alone to the hotel, remained for a day or two, and then left ostensibly for New York. All efforts to trace him since then have failed.

PROVISION FOR EVICTED TENANTS.

The *Freeman's Journal* says the Tenants' Defence League has purchased, for the accommodation of the farmers against whom Mr. Smith Barry has declared war, a farm of 220 Irish acres near Limerick Junction, which will be divided among the tenants in lots, besides forty acres on Mr. Stafford O'Brien's estate and fifty-seven acres on another estate. Arrangements are being made for other purchases.

THE CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP.

A telegram from Havanna says another game was started to-day. The contest was between Messrs. Gronberg and Tschigorin on almost similar lines to that of Monday, and the result so far as the day's play was concerned was the same, an adjournment being agreed upon at the fiftieth move.

THE HAYS WHARF STRIKE.

The first gang of coopers, numbering about forty, whom it was announced would resume work again this morning at Hays Wharf, did not do so, and still remain out on strike. The strike, which would probably have collapsed had these men gone in, still continues.

A LANCASHIRE MILLIONAIRE'S WILL.

The will of the late Mr. Samuel Fielden, of Centre Vale, Todmorden, has been proved, the personalty being sworn at £1,179,113 gross and £1,166,845 net. Legacies are left to a number of charitable and other institutions—namely, the Manchester Royal Infirmary £3,000, the Brompton Hospital for Consumption £2,000, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution £5,000, Henshaws Blind Asylum £2,000, the Royal Albert Asylum for Idiots £2,000, the Manchester and Salford Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society £2,000, the National Orthopædic Hospital £2,000, the Warehousemen and Clerks' Orphan Schools (Cheadle Hulme) £2,000, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals £1,000, the Todmorden and Lancashire Unitarian Mission £500, and the British and Foreign Unitarian Association £5,000. The testator also bequeaths £2,500 to form an endowment for the maintenance and support of public worship in the Unitarian Christian Church at Todmorden, erected by himself and his brothers, Messrs. John and Joshua Fielden, to the memory of their late father.

THE LAND AND THE "LAPSED FROM LABOUR."

As reported in our columns a week since, a meeting was recently held at the residence of Mr. W. Harcill, 15, Russell-square, to consider the advisability of renting a farm near Clacton-on-Sea where men who had lapsed from the ranks of labour could be tested as to their efficiency for agricultural pursuits prior to emigration. Last night the adjourned meeting was held, and plans were discussed as to the mode of procedure. A resolution was ultimately carried unanimously, recommending the scheme to the public and appointing a committee and secretaries to carry out the preliminary arrangements. Letters of support have been received from the Earl of Tankerville, Earl Compton, M.P., Lord Kinnaird, Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, and others.

LORD ROWTON AS A COMMON LODGING-HOUSE KEEPER.

Lord Rowton, as a result of his investigations on behalf of the Guinness Trust, has determined himself to embark in a costly enterprise, as proprietor of a common lodging-house, constructed and managed after his own plan and on his own principles.

Mr. Thomas Gray, of the Board of Trade, is seriously indisposed.

Colonel Saunderson is not going on a lecturing tour in Australia and America. The hon. gentleman was asked to do so, but declined.

The Royal Microscopical Society moves forthwith to a spacious new habitation in Hanover-square.

A professional "cremator" is sending out cards in which he guarantees to reduce one to ashes "on the most approved principles!"

Lord Penrhyn will on Friday move the reappointment of the Sweating Committee of the House, which will be specifically instructed to consider the evidence already taken, and to report thereon.

The subject of Mr. Irving's forthcoming lecture at Wolverhampton is to be the play of "Hamlet," of which he proposes to read the third act, after same elucidatory criticism of the interview between Hamlet and Ophelia.

The Solicitor-General presided last evening over a distinguished company at a farewell dinner given to Mr. J. L. Toole, preparatory to his departure on a professional tour in the Australian colonies.

The records of the trial of the Cullis chiefs are so voluminous that they run to something over a thousand pages, and cannot be printed in full in the Blue-book which will be issued to-day. Fifty copies have, however, been sent down to the library of the House, so the whole transaction is now open to discussion.

IS SIR E. WATKIN A LIBERAL UNIONIST?

WHAT HE SAYS ABOUT A FAMILY QUARREL.

It was reported yesterday that Sir Edward Watkin, M.P., had resigned his membership of the Liberal Unionist Association, the cause for the severance being a protest addressed by that body to Sir Edward on the alleged ground that as chairman of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company, he had supported the putting forward of a candidate in opposition to Mr. Heneage at Grimsby. It was also stated that the whip of the Liberal-Unionist party could no longer reckon him among their supporters. A representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette* had a few minutes' conversation yesterday with Sir Edward upon this matter. Lord Hartington's followers need neither fast nor wear sackcloth and ashes. "For he himself has said it, and from a Unionist point of view) it is greatly to his credit, he remains" a Liberal Unionist. Sir Edward said the report was greatly exaggerated The facts of the case were these: He had a large conversazione at Grimsby—a town which, in his capacity of chairman of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln Railway, he had largely made—to which he invited his old friend Mr. Josse, a merchant in the town, and Mr. Henry Gladstone (who brought with him his brother Herbert), a gentleman who had showed him much kindness in India. All shades of political opinion were represented amid the 140 or 150 guests, but not a word of politics was uttered. A few days afterwards Mr. Josse—a naturalised Frenchman—was chosen as a Gladstonian candidate against Mr. Heneage. The sitting member took offence and wrote to Lord Hartington, and, moreover, forwarded to his lordship Sir Edward's private invitation to his (Mr. Heneage's) agent. This course Sir Edward considered so mean that he refused any longer to sit with Mr. Heneage, and he tendered his resignation to the Liberal Unionist Association. This resignation, by the bye, has not yet been accepted. "Anyhow," Sir Edward concluded, "I shall be as firm a follower of Lord Hartington as ever."

SALMON IN SEASON.

The salmon season has begun well. Fish is plentiful and good. Most of the salmon now in the market is fish. The market price is 2*s.* a pound for the whole fish, per lowl 2*s.* 2*d.*, middle 2*s.* 6*d.*, tail 2*s.* 4*d.* Trout from Scotland is also plentiful but dear. It is a bad season for whitebait, which is very large, and is 1*s.* 4*d.* a quart in the markets. Turbot, however, is very fine in quality and size, and plentiful; it is therefore cheap—8*d.* a pound for the whole fish, 1*s.* if cut. Soles are also plentiful, but run large. They are 1*s.* 6*d.* a pound if small, 1*s.* if large. There is a great quantity of scollops from France in the market, very cheap—6*d.* a dozen. Altogether, fish is plentiful and cheap, and a good season is anticipated all round. Smelt are only 1*s.* a basket—an almost unprecedented price, though they have been lower. The season has begun with very cold and frosty weather, which allows for packing and keeping; consequently it is in fine condition when received in London, and retains its best qualities for several days if not sold at once.

DEATH OF FATHER IGNATIUS.

The death of the Rev. Joseph Leycester Lyne, more widely known as Father Ignatius, is reported this morning. He was a Londoner, and was born in November, 1837. He was educated at St. Paul's School and various other scholastic establishments, "finishing" at Trinity College, Glenalmond, Perthshire. When he was twenty-three years old he was ordained to the curacy of St. Peter's, Plymouth, and afterwards became a mission curate in St. George's-in-the-East. It was during the time he held his curacy that his love of monasticism began to show itself. After conducting a Church of England mission in East Anglia, he moved to the Isle of Wight to a house of Dr. Pusey's at Chale; then to Laleham, Chertsey, for three years; and finally to the Black Mountains and built Llanthony Abbey, five miles beyond the ruined abbey of that name. The object to the church is a priory of monks as well as an abbey for gentlemen in the style of the Early Saxon church. The monks wear the old English Benedictine dress, claim to follow the Saint's ancient rule, and use the Benedictine breviary for choir office, and the Sarum missal of the ante-Reformation period of the Church of England. "Father Ignatius" was the author of many published sermons and hymns, acted as editor of "Llanthony Monastery Tracts," and composed much sacred music.

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR'S VISIT TO INDIA.

It has been decided that the visit of Prince Albert Victor to India shall be commemorated by associating the name of his Royal Highness and several regiments of the Native Army, as was done after the visit of the Prince of Wales. The regiments to be thus distinguished will be selected by Sir Frederick Roberts and the Commanders in Chief in Bombay and Madras.

Prince Albert Victor arrived at Jeypore this morning, and was received at the railway station by the Maharajah, who was attended by a numerous and brilliant suite. A procession of twenty-five elephants was formed, on the first of which the Prince and the Maharajah rode, while the troops and native followers, whose various uniforms presented a splendid appearance, marched in advance. A body of Nazas kept up a war dance with naked swords, and the spectacle presented as the procession passed through the crowded streets was most picturesque—*Reuter.*

THE CREWE TRAGEDY.—RESUMED TRIAL.

Richard Davies, seventeen, and George Davies, fifteen, were again placed in the dock this morning charged with the murder of their father, Richard Davies, near the village of Hough, on January 25. The prisoners on arriving at Crewe station from Stafford Gaol were met by a large number of people. During the journey they made no attempt to converse. Mr. E. R. Blyse was chairman of the bench, and the attendance in court was not less than on the first day. Mr. Stuart Brooke again prosecuted, and Mr. Pedley, executor to the will of the deceased, watched the proceedings. The police were represented by the chief constable of Cheshire, Captain Hamersley, Mr. Superintendent Lea, and Mr. Inspector Oldham. Both prisoners appeared very dejected on taking their places in the dock.

THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION.

From an authoritative source, far from unfavourable to the person and aims of the Nationalist party, the London correspondent of the *Birmingham Post* says he learns that the report of the Special Commission, although voluminous, may be expected to be concentrated in a strong expression of regret that certain of the Land League leaders did not sufficiently dissociate themselves from the organisations which included assassination or outrage among their methods, coupled with a declaration that there was no evidence to connect these persons with crime.

A FOREST GATE FIRE IN NEW YORK.

Yesterday at eight o'clock a fire broke out in the Catholic Orphan Asylum situated in the Fifth Avenue, New York. The flames were soon extinguished, and comparatively little damage was done to the building, the only remarkable feature of the case being the wonderful discipline observed by the inmates under circumstances which might well have caused great confusion if not complete and fatal panic. As soon as the flames were discovered the fire alarm was sounded, and the boys flocked from all parts of the building to the place of meeting allotted in case of such an emergency. Then the muster was called, and the lads, 200 in number, marched into the street in precise military order. All this was done in the incredibly short space of time of two minutes and a half.

THREE SITES OBTAINED BY THE GUINNESS TRUSTEES.

The trustees of the Guinness Fund have been pursuing their inquiries and formulating their plans with commendable industry and precision. They have fixed upon three different sites, and building will soon commence in quarters of the City widely apart, but admirably suited to the purpose for which the sum of a quarter of a million has been so generously given.

The Paris *Gaulois* of this morning announces the death in Paris of Lady Duff Gordon.

Dr. Cameron, M.P., acting under medical advice, has arranged to spend a few weeks in the south of Italy before resuming his parliamentary duties.

Frank Slavin, the well-known amateur pugilist, and his bride crossed to Calais this morning *en route* to Paris.

Mrs. Kendal has met with an accident in America. She burned her hand so severely with a spirit lamp that she was unable to travel on with the company.

Mr. Parker Smith, the newly-elected member for Partick, will take his seat in the House of Commons on Friday. He is to be introduced by Mr. Hosier and Mr. T. W. Russell.

The Exchange Telegraph Company is semi-officially informed that, at the request of the American Minister, the Porte has been induced to order Moussa Bey to consider himself a prisoner in his own palace. He will never return to Asia Minor.

Mr. Bonybeare, who for some time past has been laid up with illness at Cairo, is yet some distance from complete recovery, and he does not expect to be able to get away from the Egyptian capital for another week or two.

THE PORTUGUESE SITUATION "BECOMING COMIC."

"SERPA PINTO" HATS MADE IN ENGLAND!

It is telegraphed from Lisbon that during the attempted demonstrations of Tuesday 140 persons were arrested and conveyed on board an ironclad. The repressive measures taken by the Government are applauded by the Conservatives, one paper stating that the situation was becoming anarchical and in some respects comic.

The Government suspected that the demonstrations announced for the 11th, to mark the expiration of a month since the presentation of the British ultimatum, would be taken advantage of to commemorate the Spanish Republic, and took steps accordingly. All the military were kept in their barracks, and the Marines on board their ships yesterday, the city being left in the care of a very strong force of police and municipal cavalry and infantry. Every man available for service was on duty at an early hour, and an order from the Civil Governor was posted up in the streets prohibiting the large meeting announced to be held in the circus or any manifestations in the streets.

A Lisbon correspondent favours the *Daily News* with a good story. It seems that the "Serpa Pinto" was the name of a new hat warranted of Portuguese make. Lisbon hatters had been selling it since they announced to the papers that they would buy nothing more from England, and their patriotism brought its reward with it, for the Serpa Pinto hat became the rage of Lisbon. Things were going on merrily when yesterday Lisbon learnt with some horror that the "Serpa Pintos" were of English make—in fact, British from crown to rim. The Hatters' Union has published a protest against the conduct of a few renegade brethren, who "by the sacrilegious use of the glorious Major's name have insulted all the sons of Portugal." They end up with a cry of "Down with the hats of pirate manufacture! Long live the national hat industry!"

THE "BARRACOUTA" ACCIDENT.—THIRD DEATH.

Another death, making the third, from the *Barracouta* disaster occurred in the Melville Hospital, Chatham, the death being that of a stoker named Goole.

TWO ENGLISH RAILWAY REPORTS.

The London and North Western report shows an increase in revenue of £393,484, and an increase in working expenses of £202,845. The balance available for dividend is £796,575, an increase of £115,695. The directors remark that the general re[illegible] in the commercial activity of the country has materially augmented the g[illegible] traffic receipts of the half-year; but, as was only natural, a very large increase has also taken place in the company's working expenses.

The gross receipts of the North London Railway for the half-year ending 31st December, 1889, amount to £247,811, against £246,608, an increase of £1,203; and the expenditure to £113,487, against £115,005, a decrease of £1,518; the percentage of working expenses to gross receipts being 45.79, against 46.63 in the corresponding period of 1888. A decrease of 69,000 in the number of passengers conveying is attributable to the falling off in third class bookings in certain streams of local traffic affected by omnibus and tramway competition. The numbers of first and second class passengers show an increase, and, with the further development of season ticket traffic, counteract the diminution in third class, and result in an enhanced receipt. To meet this competition, the third class fares between some of the stations in question have been modified.

A MAN FATALLY WOUNDED BY A WOMAN.

During the trial of a man at San Diego, California, yesterday, on the charge of attempting to murder a woman whom he had wronged, the prisoner was shot at by his victim who was in court and fatally wounded.—*Reuter.*

STEAMSHIPS IN COLLISION.

Shortly after nine o'clock this morning a collision occurred on the Tyne between the steamships *Newtwater* of Newcastle, and *Constance* of West Hartlepool. The *Constance* began to sink and was run ashore, and the *Newtwater* proceeded up the river.

DR. TANNER'S CASE.

Yesterday, Mr. Healy declined to further argue the case of Dr. Tanner, M.P., for using provocative language to Mr. Smith-Barry, M.P., and the Superior Court affirmed the decision of the magistrates.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN THE HOUSE.

Once more has ill-fortune attended the efforts of the advocates of women's suffrage. The ballot for precedence has again proved adverse, and the Parliamentary Committee have therefore abandoned the idea of promoting a bill on the subject in this session. They will, however, endeavour to take the opinion of the House by a resolution which will probably be submitted by Mr. Walter M'Laren some evening during March.

HOW MANY WATERLOO VETERANS ARE LIVING?

It would be interesting to know (*Truth* says) how many Waterloo veterans are still in the land of the living. In the new edition of *Hart's Army List* there are some half a dozen names, but of these, three only can be at once verified as still living, namely—Lord Allbemarle, General Whichcote, and Colonel William Hewett. Comparing the roll with that in *Hart* for last year, I see that death has made one more breach in the ranks, the name of Colonel Basil Jackson having been missing since October last. Only one Victoria Cross man (Colonel H. G. Moore, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders) died last year; while two new names were added to the roll —both surgeons.

THE UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE.

CAMBRIDGE, Thursday.—The crew started from the University boathouse shortly after eleven this morning for the purpose of rowing to Ely, a distance of eighteen miles. Mr. A. M. Hutchinson accompanied them on horseback. H. W. Sun pth were now, as substitute for C. S. Storrs. The crew went away steadily at twenty-four a minute, and took some long stages. They lunched after rowing eleven miles.

Mr. Gladstone dined last evening at the house of Sir Algernon West.

There is no truth in the published reports that Mr. Ralph Disraeli, upon resigning his post in the House of Lords as Deputy-Clerk of the Parliaments is to be raised to the peerage. Mr. Disraeli is eighty-one.

The statement which has been published that the marriage of another daughter of the Prince and Princess of Wales has been arranged is totally without foundation.—*Daily Telegraph.*

The Nice Carnival has been spoiled by cold and wet weather. A brilliant pageant, including representations of six periods of history, had been prepared for yesterday, but many people were prevented by the inclement weather from witnessing it.

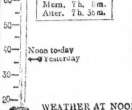
An inquiry made yesterday at Eaton-square elicited the response that Lady Russell, the young bride of Earl Russell, was no better. The bridegroom is staying in Eaton-square, at the residence of Lady Scott, his mother-in-law. The doctors think it will be some time before Lady Russell will be well enough to start on her wedding trip.

Satisfactory progress appears to be being made in the preparations for the forthcoming French Exhibition which is to be opened at Earl's-court in the beginning of May. It has been determined to present a like proportion of the surplus to the building fund of the new French hospital in London, and to give one or more grand French fêtes for the benefit of that fund during the six months the Exhibition will be open.

Mrs. Romaine Callendar, who had, jointly with her husband, the management of the Sheffield Theatre Royal, died suddenly in the small hours of Tuesday morning. The previous night she was present at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, to assist in an entertainment for the benefit of the widow and family of the late John Stringer, when she was seized with a fatal illness as she was about to go on the stage, and died a few hours later of cerebral hæmorrhage. She began her career at the Manches er Theatre Royal, contemporaneously with Henry Irving.

THERMOMETER. FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TODAY. BAROMETER

South England (with London and Channel).—South-easterly to easterly winds; fair as a whole, very cold to-night.



WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, Feb. 13, 1890.—Fair and frosty; wind light.
Readings by NEGRETTI *and* ZAMBRA'S *Instruments.*

THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

BANK RATE SIX PER CENT.—STOCK MARKETS ALL QUIET.—CHANGES SLIGHT.—NO FEATURE.

The Bank of England directors at their meeting this morning decided to make no alteration in the official minimum, which therefore remains at 6 per cent. This absence of action on the part of the Bank of England has caused disappointment in some directions, but as a rule operators were not looking for a reduction this week. In the open market there is again a good demand for money in connection with the payments on the Stock Exchange, and 5⅜ per cent. upwards is paid for loans for the day. The paying off of Treasury Bills does not appear to have eased the market to any appreciable extent. The discount rate for three months' bank paper is unaltered at 4½ to 4⅝ per cent.

Operators in Stock Exchange securities are too busy with the concluding arrangements of the settlement to think much about new business, and markets generally present a quiet and uninteresting appearance. The tone, however, is fairly good on the whole. Consols show a further improvement of 1-16 to ⅛; but other high-class investment stocks are quiet. Home Railways are a little irregular, but the movements are slight. Foreign Government securities are mostly a trifle higher. Hungarian are firmer after the recent decline, and there has been some buying of Spanish Bonds. American Railroads show a partial rise all round. The letter now in circulation from the directors of the North Western roads were going to cut rates. It appears to have been simply a notice by the association that it might give notice, and it is now thought that the other roads having promptly informed the Burlington and Northern that any reduction would be met, no reduction will be made by anybody. The heavy business in sight for all Western roads does not seem to be claimed, warrant any extensive rate-cutting, although such action would relieve farmers of the heavy stocks of grain on hand. The latest despatches from Chicago state that no cutting is now contemplated. Trunks are steady, and Mexican Railway issues are quiet.

The share list of Walery (Limited) closes for town and country to-morrow.

The list of applications for shares in the Anglo-American Debenture Corporation (Limited) will open to-day and close to-morrow, or earlier.

The board of directors of the Union Bank of Spain and England (Limited) inform the shareholders that since the receipt of the balance-sheet from one of the branches a serious defalcation has been discovered, which necessitates a thorough reinvestigation of the books of that branch; but any loss resulting therefrom will in no way affect the position of the bank.

The Mexican Explorations (Limited) have acquired two concessions for wood and timber in Yucatan, and also the option of a Government concession extending over 570 square leagues of explored and unexplored coalfields in Sonora. The company has also decided to establish a bank in British Honduras under the British Bank of Central America, which will shortly be brought out. It is possible that a company termed the French Mexican Exploration Company will be shortly registered in England, as the outcome of negotiations now going on with certain French capitalists. The concessions have been obtained for a mere nominal amount of money, and the capital of the company remains practically intact.

We are informed by Mr. Hamilton Wardlaw, Editor of the New British Iron Company (Limited), which went into liquidation in November, 1887, that that company has now paid in full the whole of its trade liabilities, as also all its loan and debenture debts, with interest, amounting in the aggregate to £200,000.

The directors of the Brush Electrical Engineering Company (Limited) have, in view of the satisfactory volume of business transacted during the past six months, decided to pay an interim dividend upon the Preference shares of this company at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum from the 10th of August, 1889 (the date of registration of the company), to the 10th of February, 1890. The directors defer the question of a dividend on the Ordinary shares until the complete accounts are before them.

Bell's Asbestos Company (Limited) report that the result of the year's operations is a net profit of £22,853. The directors recommend the payment of a dividend of 10*s.* per share, which, with the interim dividend paid in July, makes a total distribution of 22½ per cent. for the year.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market opened quiet with a small demand. Probable sales 7,000 bales. Futures are dull, and sellers show one point decline.

TRAFFICS.—Grand Trunk of Canada (main line) £3,928 *increase*, (Chicago and Grand Trunk) £1,604 *increase*; (Detroit section) £619 *increase*.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: Great Eastern ¼, District ¼, Caledonian, Great Western North Western, and South Eastern Deferred ½ each. *Receded*: Chatham Ordinary ⅛, and Midland ⅛.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Rises*: MexicanSix per Cents. ½, Hungarian Gold, and Turkish Group 2 ½, Italian and Spanish 1-16. *Lower*: French Four and a Half per Cents. 1-16, and Egyptian Unified 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILROADS.—*Higher*: Northern Pacific Preference ½, Atlantic Firsts ¼, Ontario shares ¼, Milwaukee and St. Paul, Erie shares, Norfolk and Western Preference, and Union Pacific ⅛ each. *Fallen*: Louisville and Nashville and Pennsylvania shares ⅛.

CANADIAN AND AMERICAN RAILWAYS.—*Advances*: Grand Trunk First Preference ⅛. *Fallen*: Grand Trunk Guaranteed and Nitrate shares ⅛.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Rises*: Mason and Barry 1-16. *Falls*: Primitive Nitrate ⅛.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.			
Consols (2½) money	97⅜	⅛	
Do account	97 11/16	13/16	
Do 1903	99⅝	1/16	
2½ per Cent	92	⅜	
Local Loan Stock	102⅜	5/8	
India 3½ per Cent	107	⅛	
Do 4½ p. c. Rd	117	⅜	
Egyptian Unified	101¼	¼	
Do. Bd. Wat. 4½	112¼	⅛	
Do. 5 p. c. Scrip	102	⅛	
Birmingham Cs. 3½	103	11	
Liverpool	112¼	¼	
FOREIGN STOCKS.			
Argent. 6 p.c. 1111	81	½	
Do. 5 p.c. Scrip	65¼	4	
Do. Treasury	93	6	
Austrian Gold	93	6	
Do. Silver	71	6	
Braz. Scripts, 1883	75¼	¼	
Do. part paid	10⅛	9/16	dis
Do. 5 p.c. 1889	101	2	
Do. Cedulas 1	87¼	8¾	xd
Chilian 4½ s. 1885	103	2	
Do. 6 p.c. 1887	101	3	
Do. 8	87	9	
Egypt. State Dom	102⅛	3	
Do. Unified	93⅝	⅜	
Do. Pre-ferred	103½	⅜	
Do. Da. ra Sasieh	85⅜	⅜	
French 3 p.c. Rnte	89⅝	⅛	
Do. 4½ p.c. Rnte	107	⅛	
German Imp. 4 p.c.	90	⅛	
Hung. Gold Rentes	85⅞	7/16	
Italian	92⅜	3/16	
Mexican 6 per c. 1888	103⅝	⅝	
Peruvian Bonds	17⅜	⅜	
Do. 6 p.c.	20¾	1	
Portuguese	65⅝	⅜	
Russian 5	103¼	¼	
Spanish 4 p. c.	72 7/16	3/16	
Turkish 13	102	4	
Series A	41¾	¼	
Series B	24⅝	⅛	
Do. 1865	17 13/16	13/16	
4½ p.c. 1st	91	⅛	
Uruguay Debent.	75	2	
Do. Preferred	93	7	
Uruguay Unified	72	¼	
Virginia Funded	44½	9/16	
U.S. 4½ p.c.	107	⅛	
BRITISH RAILWAYS.			
Caledonian	128½	¼	
Great Eastern	83¾	¾	
Great Northern	153	½	
Do. A	138¾	¼	
Great Western	165	½	
Lancashire & York.	121	¼	xd
Brighton A Ord	136	7	
Brighton A	155¾	½	
Chatham (Ordinary)	22½	⅜	
Cha. Preference	107	1/16	xd
North Western	173½	¼	
South Western	152	5	xd
Manchester & Sheff.	38	39	
Do. A	49	½	
Met. Consolidated	75⅝	6	
Do. District	20⅝	⅛	
Do. Preferred	48⅜	⅜	
North British Pref.	77⅜	8	
Do. Def.	65⅜	⅜	
North Eastern	166½	9/16	xd
North Staffords	81	3	
South Eastern	127	9	
Do. Deferred	103⅝	⅛	
Taff Vale 113	73	82	
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.			
Canada Pacific	77⅛	⅜	
Can. Pacific Shares	33⅜	⅜	
Chic. Mil. and St. P.	109⅜	⅜	
Denver & Rio Grande	19⅛	¼	
Do. Pref.	50	¼	xd
Illinois Shares	118	19	xd
Lake Shore	121¾	¼	
Ohio & Mississippi	21⅜	2⅛	
Louisand Nash.	93⅛	⅜	
Mex. Cen. New 5s	72	⅜	
Mex. Cen. 6 Debs	13	⅜	
N.Y. Cen. Shares	108⅝	9	
New York Ontario	19⅛	⅜	
Erie Shares	27⅛	⅜	
Do. Sec. Mort.	103¾	4	
Norfolk & West. Pref.	65⅜	⅜	
N.Y.P. & Ohio M.	34⅜	⅛	
North Pacific Pref.	70⅝	⅜	
Pennsylvania Sh.	53⅝	6¾	
Philadelphia Sh.	20⅜	⅜	
1st Preference	71⅛	2⅜	
Union Pacific	51⅝	⅜	
Wabash Pre ferred	32¾	3¼	
Do. Gen. Mort.	83¾	⅜	
Grand Trunk Def.	12 11/16	13/16	
Do. First Pref.	40½	⅜	
Do. Second Pref.	20⅜	⅜	
Do. Third Pref.	9⅜	⅜	
Do. Guaranteed	15⅜	⅜	
Mexican Ordinary	37⅛	⅜	
Do. First Pref.	71⅞	⅜	
Ont. & Sid. Pref.	73¾	¼	
Lombards Def.	11⅜	12	
Nitrate Railway	10¼	17⅜	
BANKS.			
Alliance Bank	75	15	
City Bank	52	5	
Consolidated Bank	9⅞	⅛	
Imperial Ottoman	11 11/16	3/16	
London and Country	92½	5/8	
London Joint Stock	40⅝	1/8	
London and West	39¼	⅛	
London Joint Stock	35⅜	⅜	
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	35	6	
Stand. Bank S. A.	65	⅜	
MINES.			
Indian Consolidated	2⅞	3/8	
Mysore Reefs	9¼	⅛	
Ouregum	1¼	2⅛	
Cape Copper	2⅛	⅛	
Namaqua	1⅛	⅛	
Rio Tinto	18⅜	⅛	
Montana (Exchange)	1 3/16	5/16	
Del Monte Reefs	13⅜	20	
Rio Grande Copper	22⅜	5	
TELEGRAPHS & TELEPHONES			
Anglo-American	5¼	2	
Do. Pref.	8⅞	8	
Brazilian	13½	⅜	
Direct Unit. States	13	⅛	
Eastern	13⅝	11/16	
Direct European	13⅛	1⅜	
Globe Telegraph	8⅞	⅜	
Globe Telegraph Trust	8⅝	⅜	
TRAMWAYS, ETC.			
London Gen. Omn.	170	2 1/2	
London Street	14⅛	15	
London Tramway	14⅝	15⅝	
North Metropolitan	14⅝	⅜	
WATERWORKS.			
Chelsea Waterworks	253	5	
East London	213	14	
Grand Junction	142	7	
Kent	170	81	
Lambeth	232	5	
New River	152	70	
Southwark & Vauxhall	133	70	
W. Middlesex	151	5	
GAS & ELECTRIC LIGHT.			
Gaslight & Coke A	218	21	
Imp. Continental	215	18	
South Metropolitan	232		
Do. B.	248	8	
Do. C.	235	45	
London Electric		3⅝	⅜
Metropolitan		4⅝	⅜
MISCELLANEOUS.			
Allsopp	69	71	
Guinness and Co.	137⅛	42⅜	
Hotchkiss	6⅜	7¼	
Hayward Mayo	15⅜	⅜	
Spiers & Pond	22	3	
Liverpool Nitrate	13	15	
Primitive Nitrate	14⅜	⅜	
Salt Union Shares	10⅜	⅜	
P. and O. Stock, Def.	69	72	
Royal Mail Steam	75	6	
Nat. Discount Co.	113	12¼	
Hudson's Bay	10⅞	23⅜	
Rio Tinto Copper	18⅜	⅛	
Exana W. Ind. Dock	17	19	
London and Int. K.	35	7	

The following are quotations of securities receiving attention at present, and not given in our list above:—

Bell's Asbestos	14½	⅜	Ocean Land	12	⅜
San Jago	5⅛	⅜	Sandstead Real	4	⅛
Tarapaca Water	10¼	⅛	Transvaal Land	⅛	1 p.m.
Cit and Suburban	8⅜	9	G. F. & S. Africa	5	⅛
Jumper Gold	3⅜	⅛	Exploring Co.	15	23
Lisbon	9⅜	⅜	Kalgoorlie Exploring	⅜	1 p.m.
Salisbury	3⅛	9	Southern Land	⅜	⅛ p.m.
Ruby	⅜	¾ p.m.	Eastman's Ordinary	15⅜	15⅝
Lisbon Bahia	3⅜	9½	Elmore's Copper Co.	6¼	7¼

"Pall Mall Gazette" Office.

THURSDAY MORNING.

Some surprise was caused yesterday by Mr. Smith's announcement that the Government "had not yet received the report of its Commissioner to Switzerland," although Sir Francis de Winton has been in London for ten days. I understand, however, that Mr. Smith had not been quite correctly informed on the matter. Sir Francis sent in the bulk of his report to the Colonial Office some days ago. This contained what may be called the historical and explanatory portion of his Report. What remains to come is his concluding recommendations.

⁂

Sir W. White must be a proud man to-day if the substance of the references made to him by Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Smith are telegraphed to Constantinople. It is seldom that the leaders on both sides go out of their way to compliment an Ambassador. Sir William, however, deserves his good fortune. A great burly Briton he is, and as clever as he is big. His voice would be audible in a storm at sea, without the aid of a speaking trumpet, and his mind is as acute as his lungs are strong. The Russians admire him although they dislike him for his Catholicism and his Polish connections. He is, they say, the English Ignatieff, and to an ambassador at Constantinople they could not pay a greater compliment.

⁂

The delay in moving the Address on Tuesday was not without its humourous side. Mr. Royden was a little nervous as to the part he had to play in the matter, and he had probably never been in a Court suit before. He went into the House and looked on, with many inward sarcasms on a privilege debate which deprived him of the temporary advantage of his privileges. He came out and fidgeted in the lobby, and the whips' room. Members fired off little jokes at his expense, and played with his sword in a familiar way. Again he went into the House. Hour after hour passed, and still there was no clear prospect of actually attending to duty or positively leaving it till the next day. With his MS. speech, his hat, and his sword, he was fully occupied. Lord Brooke was calm enough, however, in ordinary costume, knowing full well that Mr. Royden had to precede him after a certain division. Another difference was perceptible in the quality of the two speeches delivered yesterday.

⁂

It would have done the hearts of many of Mr. Irving's admirers good to hear the reception which was accorded last night to the eldest son of the Lyceum chief, when he came in front of the curtain at Oxford to acknowledge the applause so freely bestowed upon his "Strafford." Like father, like son! Who shall say what the future shall bring forth? Who shall venture to prophesy the dramatic heights destined to be attained by Henry Irving the Younger?

⁂

Lady Aberdeen, although to all outward appearance she has completely recovered from her recent severe attack of nervous fever, is so far from being restored to health that she leaves England to-day for several months' rest. For the rest of the year she must wander to and fro doing as little as possible, and allowing nature, time and opportunity for its work of restoration. Lady Aberdeen, who will be accompanied by her husband, but not in the first instance by her children, will leave to-day for Mentone. They will subsequently visit Italy, and possibly Sicily. Their ultimate movements are uncertain, but Australians will be glad to hear that it is not altogether out of the question that they may revisit the colonies, of whose kindness and hospitality they cherish the pleasantest memories.

⁂

Miss Colenso, who has come over to England to further the interests of her clients, the Zulu chiefs, had an interview with Lord Knutsford at the Colonial Office on Tuesday, and yesterday called at the *Pall Mall Gazette* office. Our readers shall have the outlines of her story before long. From the Colonial Office she did not expect, and we are afraid did not obtain, much encouragement. But from the British public, if once their interest can be aroused, she is confident of receiving sympathy. Certainly, if faith and devotion should count, Miss Colenso deserves it. For twenty-five years she has lived uninterruptedly among the Zulus, who have become to her in a very real sense "men and brothers." She is full of sympathy for what she considers their unmerited sufferings, and of admiration for their many good qualities.

⁂

Of Dinizulu, the young chief, in particular, Miss Colenso speaks with affectionate concern, and she carries everywhere about with her a curious little hand-broom with a string of fancy wood-work, which he gave her as a kind of "order of merit." Since she left Zululand, she has heard of the deportation of the chiefs to St. Helena, and the thought that gives her most immediate anxiety is that they will now be beyond the reach of her ministrations. During their imprisonment at Etchowe Miss Colenso had been teaching the chiefs to read. They had, she says, made most satisfactory progress, but not enough, she is afraid, to be able henceforward to teach themselves. It is pleasant, however, to know that Lord Knutsford has half-promised, in response to Miss Colenso's entreaties, to appoint a "tutor" to the exiled chiefs, and has also given her leave to write to them.

⁂

The plague of rats increases and multiplies in Lincolnshire, and when its many as 120 are found in a single corn stack it is not surprising that the poor rodents have taken to eating each other. If that process could but be accelerated the rat difficulty would solve itself. The latest explanation of the cause of this scourge is that the export of all the stoats and weasels to the antipodes to kill off the rabbits has deprived the rats of the natural check on over multiplication. If so, I think Sir Charles Mills, the Cape Agent-General, has good reason for putting forward the suggestion that the black snakes of Robben Island should be imported to clear Lincolnshire of its rats. The black snake is not poisonous, but it has an insatiable hunger for sucking rats. It dives into the rat holes and clears out litter after litter until not a rat is left alive. Clearly the sooner a consignment of snakes is shipped from the Cape the better for our farmers.

⁂

Mr. O'Brien has now achieved the foremost place amongst the Irish leaders in the affections of the Liberal masses. Mr. Dillon held it once, but Mr. Dillon is away just now, and Mr. O'Brien has succeeded to the vacant throne. His appearance last night at Holborn was very affecting, the enthusiasm as boundless as at Manchester, and his speech, as always, quite admirable in tone, in temper, and in matter. Mr. T. W. Russell probably never said a more unfortunate thing for his party than when he described Mr. O'Brien as rioting in luxury in gaol, and asked, "was it not time some one took this man by the throat?" Mr. O'Brien's appearance is a practical refutation of Mr. Russell's coarse insinuation, and his reference to taking the Irish patriot "by the throat" has made a good many stalwart Liberals feel inclined to twist the neck of his traducer. On the whole, however, they had better let him talk.

⁂

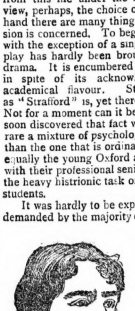
The statement of the *Manchester Examiner* that members of the council of the United Synagogue are supporting a movement to effect a "Reform of the Synagogue" is (a Jewish correspondent wrote) somewhat misleading. The truth is that, whatever may be the feelings and private opinions of a section of that body, no steps have as yet been taken to give them public expression. The question of the confirmation of girls is a minor matter by the side of others which are likely to divide the Jewish community, such as the abolition of the second days of festivals and the introduction of musical accompaniment to the services on Sabbaths and holidays. What may have given rise to the London correspondent's assertion is the advocacy of "Local Option" in synagogue affairs by two anonymous correspondents in the current number of the *Jewish Chronicle*. This organ, favouring their suggestion, promises a series of articles from the pens of writers who will profess to represent the views of the congregations of East and West London, Berkeley-street (Reform), the provinces, and the colonies. No doubt a strong attempt will be made to create a new Judaism possessing the elasticity to adapt itself to the convenience of those would-be reformers who wish the next Chief Rabbi to be the exponent of their own crotchets rather than the champion of the religion which has preserved the Jews to the present day.

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash or 10s. per month (Sloane-l.ouse), 10s. 6d. per month, on the three years' system. Illustrated lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 12, SOHAM-STREET (Reform), Oxford-street, Holborn, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

BROWNING'S "STRAFFORD" AT OXFORD.

THE O.U.D.S. PERFORMANCE LAST NIGHT.

For once in a way the young histrions of Oxford have deserted the beaten track and turned their attention to a play less ancient than the works of Euripides and Alcestis, and less strictly classical than the Shakspearean pro-ductions which have hitherto been relied upon by the dramatic students of the University when their attention was not directed to the "Agamemnon" and the "Alcestis." The authorities are as much to be thanked for this innovation as the principal organisers of the event, for hitherto the laws which fettered the soaring imagination of the Thespian aspirant have been almost Draconian in their severity. Now, however, the Vice-Chancellor has relaxed the rigidity of his theatrical code, and as a consequence the Oxonian actors have been enabled to impart a more or less topical—if somewhat melancholy—interest to their ante-Lenten season, and to give a careful and conscientious performance of one of the most striking dramatic works of the poet who so recently passed away from this life under the Italian sun. From some points of view, perhaps, the choice of "Strafford" is open to criticism; but on the other hand there are many things to be said in its favour, so far as the present occasion is concerned. To begin with, it is in no sense of the word hackneyed; for, with the exception of a single performance in London some few years back, the play has hardly been brought before the eyes of present-day lovers of the drama. It is encumbered by no weighty traditions, and, at the same time, in spite of its acknowledged inaccuracies, it boasts a very distinct academical flavour. Strangely sombre both in theme and treatment as "Strafford" is, yet there is much in the work that is intensely interesting. Not for a moment can it be maligned as a stage play pure and simple—Macready soon discovered this fact when he originally produced it in 1837. So rare a mixture of psychology and politics requires a far less conventional test than the one that is ordinarily applied in the case of the poetical drama. But equally the young Oxford actors are not criticised as if they were competing with their professional seniors. These truisms being admitted, let us see how the heavy histrionic task of last evening was grappled with by the University students.



MR. IRVING, JUN.

It was hardly to be expected that the plain and straightforward elocution demanded by the majority of Shaksperean speeches could be applied with equal success to the perpetually broken and rhapsodical lines which abound in "Strafford;" and in the present performance these shortcomings were most apparent. To bestow fitting emphasis and appropriate intonation upon each and every word of such a part as the luckless hero of this play would tax the capabilities of the oldest and most experienced actor. But Mr. Henry Irving—with the spirit of his father doubtless stirring strong within him—rose to the occasion in a manner which surprised every one. The ease and grace of his gesture, the subtlety of his facial expression, and the skilfully-graduated transitions from quiet pathos to powerful intensity, were all admirable, and stamped him at once as an actor of rich promise. His faults may be summed up in a very few words. At the commencement of the play especially he was decidedly too monotonous, maintaining something very like a persistent "singsong" style of delivery. In the earlier acts, too, he seemed to exert himself to a greater extent than the situations fairly demanded, and he was clearly too anxious to make effects which were not in the dramatist-poet never intended the actor to aim at. But these blemishes were off as the play progressed, and Mr. Irving may be congratulated most heartily on his reading of the closing scene in the Tower, where Strafford goes to meet the fate he has brought upon himself by his love and devotion for his King. Here all was most carefully studied and artistically executed; and the awful pathos which greeted the young dramatic student on certain fell must be attributed in the main to his treatment of this final incident. The Pym of Mr. E. H. Clarke was also a performance which stood out in bold relief among a cast which was of necessity somewhat unequal. He did not quite give the idea of the rugged sternness which must have characterised the man, and in the last act he was inclined to take a rather too sympathetic view of the past; on the whole, however, he played most soundly and sensibly, and fairly earned his share of the honours of the evening. Of the minor roles, the Younger Vane of Mr. H. T. Farmer, the Holland of Mr. H. T. Whitaker, and the Denzil Hollis of Lord Warkworth, showed plenty of appreciation of dramatic effect; while Mr. Seaton and Mr. W. H. Hornby also deserve something more than a word of praise for their careful acting. Mrs. Charles Sim gave a singularly clever rendering of the difficult character of Lady Carlisle; and Miss Kate Behnke, though she hardly realised one's ideas of Queen Henrietta Maria, did the little she had to do intelligently enough.

The scenery for "Strafford"—most kindly designed by Mr. Alma Tadema and painted by Mr. T. W. Hall—is as appropriate and effective as possible; the Audience Chamber in the Palace of Whitehall and the dungeon in the Tower of London, looking on to the moonlit river, being most admirable stage pictures. Mr. Alan M. Mackinnon, who has stage-managed the entire production, has been most successful in arranging and grouping the various scenes of the play, and has certainly added a notable item to the long list of his dramatic achievements at Oxford.

"LONDON'S WELCOME" TO MR. W. O'BRIEN.

LAST NIGHT'S DEMONSTRATION.

If Mr. William O'Brien "lives to be a hundred" he will surely never forget the welcome given him last night at the Holborn Hall, Holborn. The idea originated with the London Liberal and Radical Union, and was certainly carried to a successful issue. Over an hour before the doors were opened traffic around the building was impeded. As soon as possible the hall was crowded in every part—quite five thousand people mustering—and quickly the roof rang with renderings of political ballads. There was great cheering for the Liberal leaders, and expressions of scorn for Captain O'Shea. It would be impossible to mention all those M.P.'s who were present, but well to the fore were Messrs. James Rowlands, H. L. W. Lawson, George Howell, and E. H. Pickersgill; Professor Stuart, Dr. Farquharson, Messrs. W. Willis, Q.C., G. C. Whiteley, Percy Bunting, and the untiring secretary, J. Renwick Seager.

When Mr. Causton, M.P., chairman of the Union, called the meeting, to order, and with Mr. W. O'Brien the whole meeting rose *en masse*, and for five full minutes cheer followed cheer with deafening sound. The Very Rev. Canon Keller, entering later, was received in a fashion unprecedented in the London experience of any Irish Catholic priest. The chairman appropriately presented Mr. O'Brien with an address on behalf of the Union.

The hero of the evening, though unmistakably ill and worn, as he warmed to his work in replying, proved himself master of all his old vigour. After a damning denunciation of the Government "who crawled into office through the aid of the Irish, knowing then every syllable about the party which the Parnell Commission judges know now," he referred to the *Times*'s action. "They have done their worst and they have failed.

> Humpty Dumpty forged a base scrawl,
> Humpty Dumpty has had a great fall:
> All the Queen's judges, and all the Queen's men
> Won't set Humpty Dumpty up again.

Whatever he continued, the verdict of three judges reading newspaper files for the last ten years might be, there were thirty millions in England as good judges as they. But now Mr. O'Brien's voice showed signs of giving way, and in response to a cry from the gallery, echoed by the chairman, he "yielded for once to coercion," and rested for a while. On resuming, Mr. O'Brien dealt with Mr. Smith Barry, saying that his reply to his tenants' proposals that "he would see them hanged first" showed the man's character better than a library of biographies. His eloquent recital of the wrongs under which the Tipperary tenants have suffered so long stirred the people up to an unusually sympathetic pitch, and his peroration was the signal for another extraordinary outburst.

Canon Keller's speech on the tenants' wrongs was well delivered, and to the point. The whole audience rose to their feet when he finished. Mr. Rowlands, M.P., Mr. Whiteley, Mr. Bunting, Professor Stuart, and others proposed or seconded the customary votes of thanks.

A CHAT WITH MR. O'BRIEN.

At the conclusion of the meeting I had, writes our reporter, a few minutes' conversation with Mr. O'Brien. He was tired, but evidently pleased with his magnificent reception. He said that his experiences during the few weeks had been absolutely astounding—the kindness shown him made him feel quite ashamed. He knew before that the English people were really in sympathy with the aspirat ons of their Irish brothers and sisters, but the meetings which he had attended since leaving gaol had made him more certain of this than ever. Demonstrations like that which he had just left were most excellent in their educational effect upon the English people, and it was especially in London that such lessons were needed. There was a ring of triumph in Mr. O'Brien's voice which was good for one to hear.

INSTRUCTIONS.—When attacked with FEVERISH COLD, lie in bed for three or four days in warm room, well ventilated by having a good fire, take ENO'S "FRUIT SALT" freely and ENO'S "VEGETABLE MOTO" occasionally. After a few days the marked symptoms will pass away. CAUTION.—Examine each bottle and see that the capsule is marked ENO'S "FRUIT SALT." Without it no "FRUIT SALT" has been imparted to a sensitive and occasionally poisonous imitation.—ENO'S "FRUIT SALT" WORKS, London, S.E.

MR. GEORGE FINDLAY ON RAILWAY TRAVELLING.

MODERN IMPROVEMENTS AND FACILITIES.

An extremely interesting paper by Mr. George Findlay, general manager of the London and North-Western Railway, on the above subject was read last night before the Society of Arts. The great system of railways which covers this country to-day is a marvellous one, and little more than half a century's growth, and there was a time known to many still living, prior to the era of railways, when Manchester and Cornwall, or London and Aberdeen, were, in effect, as widely separated as London and Rome or Madrid are to-day, when a journey from London to Scotland was as momentous an undertaking as it is now considered to cross the Atlantic between the old world and the new. In 1830, when the Liverpool and Manchester Railway was opened, there appear to have been two classes of trains, which were run separately. The first-class trains consisted of small vehicles on four wheels, very much resembling the old road coaches, and each of these vehicles bore a name, such as the "Wellington" or the "Victory," in the same way as the coaches they had succeeded. The lower class of passengers were accommodated in cattle truck-like vehicles, having no seats or partitions, but with a light awning overhead and sides about 3 ft. high. As a result there were frequent cases of passengers overbalancing themselves and falling out of the trucks while the train was in motion. Down to about 1870 the only material change in the position of affairs was that the whole country had been gradually covered with a network of railways. In 1872 the parliamentary train from Euston to Liverpool, 201¾ miles, stopped at every station on the route, and occupied nearly eleven hours on a journey which the more fortunate third-class passenger of to-day is enabled to perform in 4½ hours. At this time the third-class carriages were not upholstered in any way, and still contained nothing more than plain wooden seats, but were covered in as a protection from the weather. No foot-warmers were then supplied in winter to third-class passengers. In 1872 the Midland Company adopted the practice of conveying third-class passengers by all trains, while three years later they abolished second-class. The greatest improvement in speed has been made in the Scotch expresses. The London and North-Western have not hitherto made their primary object to run their trains at the highest attainable rate of speed. The highest speed is not always the most compatible with safety and punctuality. Taking England and Scotland throughout, the time-tables show a total of 670 trains daily, with a mileage of 62,904 miles, having an inclusive speed of upwards of 41 miles an hour; whereas twenty years ago, in 1871, on the ten leading railways of England, there were no more than fifty-seven trains run at a speed exceeding 39 miles an hour, while none of the lesser railways could boast any such trains. The lengths to which the English companies have gone, under the stress of competition, in making concessions to the public, have had the effect of placing railway travellers in Great Britain in a most favoured position compared with the public who use the Continental railways. There has been during recent years a very striking increase in the size and weight of passenger carriages, and the same causes that have led to this increase have brought about a marked improvement in the arrangements for the comfort and convenience of passengers. The provision of lavatory accommodation in trains is perhaps one of the greatest boons ever bestowed upon railway passengers. The power and weight of the engines has kept be corresponding ly augmented. In 1888 there were carried upon the railways of the United Kingdom upwards of 742,000,000 passengers, exclusive of the enormous number of journeys performed by season-ticket holders. During the year only eleven persons lost their lives by reason of accidents to trains, and 594 were injured from the same cause, so that only about one passenger in 67,000,000 was killed, and one in about 1,300,000 was injured. Now, if we turn back to 1870, the first year in which the Board of Trade returns were published in their present complete form, we find that although the number of passengers carried was less than half—say about 307,000,000—the number killed in train accidents was 90, besides 1,034 injured, so that one passenger in about 4,700,000 was killed, and one in about 280,000 was injured. During the past year the railway companies of the United Kingdom carried for the Post Office something like 34,000,000 parcels.

A DEBATE ON STRIKES AT TOYNBEE HALL

WEST-ENDERS AND THE STRIKERS.

At the Toynbee Hall last night, side by side with the aristocratic members of the Hardwicke Club sat some of the leading dock labourers. They had met by the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Barnett to discuss, in Toynbee Hall drawing-room, the recent strikes. Mr. Candy, Q.C., opened the debate with the resolution that strikes as at present conducted are injurious to the best interests of the country. He was answered by Mr. Drummond and Mr. Clem Edwards, who upheld as an amendment that where grievances exist a strike should follow. They maintained, in opposition to Mr. Candy, that their employers had received sufficient warning, and that the police had done their duty fairly, impartially, and manfully. In support, moreover, there were figures to prove that out of the 15 per cent. paid in extra wages to the men only 7½ came from the company, the rest being money that before the strike had gone into the pockets of the sweater. Trade at the docks had very much improved. Mr. Corrie Grant and Mr. Ernest Hart were among the gentlemen who assured Mr. Candy that they, as ratepayers, which public body, as Mr. Edwards, were going to button their breeches-pocket up next time there was a strike. The first-named was especially indignant that Mr. Candy, a barrister, and consequently a member of the most exclusive trades union in the world, should condemn the same system among working men. Lord Herschell, who presided, said there was no doubt the general level of wages was higher for the existence of trades unions and strikes. But they all felt that a strike was to be avoided if possible, and he advocated the formation of a board of conciliation. The debate was a success, and even when at eleven o'clock the formal discussion was closed, gentlemen continued over light refreshments to talk upon the strike and its results.

THE "METHODIST TIMES" AND THE INDIAN MISSIONARIES.

DECISION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

There was a very animated discussion in the meeting of the Wesleyan Foreign Missionary Committee yesterday. It lasted all day, and an important resolution was adopted. The question under discussion was whether the request of the Indian missionaries that a Special Commission should be appointed to investigate the statements made in the *Methodist Times* by Mr. Hughes and Dr. Lunn, should be acceded to. Mr. Hughes has away from town sent a letter regretting the personalities which had been indulged in on the other side, but expressing his willingness, if a commission were appointed, to appear before it and prove the statements made, provided that the constitution of the commission was such as to command public confidence, and that the investigation should be a public one. The committee, however, finally resolved that they had no power to appoint such a commission. Indeed, there was a strong feeling against a commission. But it was decided to call a special meeting of the committee in April, when two of the Indian missionaries would be summoned home to meet Mr. Hughes and Dr. Lunn before the committee, and in the meantime Mr. Hughes was called upon to produce an outline of the evidence which he indicated he had in hand in proof of his case.

"IT WILL STOP TO LOOK AT YOU."

THE STORY ABOUT THE LAUREATE.

The Rev. Charles Yeld writes from the University School, Nottingham, to the *Daily Graphic* as to the poem quoted by him at the dinner of the local literary club:—The poem (he says) I had seen many times in the poet's own handwriting; it had been shown by my friend, Mr. Henry Bradshaw, to hundreds of his friends, who had been allowed by him to take copies of it, and it had become almost public property any time these last twenty years. I did not feel that I was betraying any confidence, or even committing an indiscretion, when I gave it to our literary club as a proof of the early age at which the Poet Laureate's genius began to show itself. The incident of the watch, and the very pretty speech, "It will stop to look at you," was told to me twenty-five years ago, by the late brother, in the poet's own drawing-room, and in her presence as well as (subsequently) by the lady, who had asked Mr. Tennyson (as he then was) to tell her the time. What possible harm there was in my relating what I had heard told many times, and have myself retold many times, as a graceful *jeu d'esprit*, I cannot for the life of me conceive. When, however, my attention was called to the matter in somewhat silly comments of a contemporary, I wrote both to Lord Tennyson and to the lady's son, deprecating any thought of causing annoyance to either. From the one I received a kind letter, frankly accepting my apology, and acquitting me of the smallest intention or idea of causing them the least vexation; from the other I received the very ungracious (to use a mild "dignified") letter which Mr. Hallam Tennyson forwarded for publication to the *Athenæum*. It seems to me that both the poem and the bon-mot deserve to be recorded—as, indeed they were bound to be in any biography of the poet. They are not "go sip"! Lord Tennyson says there was no romance: they can only add to the poet's reputation. I have two regrets: one, that the friends of the lady are sorry that the incident has been mentioned so publicly; the other, that Lord Tennyson's acceptance of my apology was not a little less ungracious.

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"I SHALL SHOULDER MY RIFLE."

PROFESSOR TYNDALL'S REJOINDER TO SIR W. HARCOURT.

Professor Tyndall writes to the *Times*:—My eminent friend, Sir William Harcourt, has honoured me with a notice of his benevolent attention. With a stroke of that adroitness which has done so much to pervert his venerable leader's judgment he combines the courteous statement that certain utterances of mine "are scientific Orangeman." Will you allow me to assure this superior person that I am not an Orangeman, and that I know nothing whatever of the secrets of that craft? But I have read and I do say, that if I ever have to shoulder my rifle among the Orangemen. An immortal doctrine preached those throughout the south and west, I shall, without hesitation, by his black myrmidons of the Orangemen. An immortal doctrine preached many centuries ago was, to the Greeks, foolishness. It may be that in his political exegesis Sir William Harcourt is a Greek. With regard to the epithet "disgraceful," he has a good right to use in retaliation; for though in public I have never called his conduct disgraceful, in private conversation with my friends among those scientific persons he so much contemns, whenever it is desired to point to the political man who has most prostituted great abilities, the figure of the right honourable member for Derby leaps at once into view. Scientific men are occupied with the veracities of nature, while Sir William Harcourt has made it the business of his life to illustrate the unveracity of man. I might bestow more attention upon this gracious personage, but I am at the present moment endeavouring to the best of my ability to respond to a demand made upon me by his illustrious chief.

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Notice.
Admirers of the late ROBERT BROWNING *will find a charming portrait of the poet, which has been reproduced from a new photograph by permission of Mrs. F. W. H. Myers, in this week's number (February 13) of the* PALL MALL BUDGET.

The same issue also contains a Sketch from Life of
MR. J. L. TOOLE IN HIS DRESSING ROOM,
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10	15	0	250	100	208	75
86	17	6	2,500	1,000	2,080	750
434	7	6	12,500	5,000	10,400	3,750
869	15	0	25,000	10,000	20,800	7,500

Bonds of £10, 250 francs, 100 florins, 208 marks, 75 roubles, payable on the 1st March, 1st June, 1st September, and 1st December, in London, Paris, Amsterdam, Berlin, St. Petersburg, and New York. The first Coupon will be payable the 1st June, 1890.
The Bonds will be redeemed at par in eighty years by half-yearly drawings, and will be payable at the above places. The first drawing reimbursement will take place on the 1st December, 1890, and the first drawing will include a sufficient number of Bonds to cause the Loan to have the same duration as the previous Four per Cent. Conversion Loan, issued in December, 1883.
The Russian Government reserves to itself the right to increase the half-yearly drawings, or to repay the whole Loan on or after January 1, 1930.
Holders of Bonds of the Anglo-Dutch Loans of 1864 and 1866, which, by Ukase, dated 29/31 January, 1870, have been called in for payment on 15th June, 1890, the holders of Bonds of the Five per Cent. Silver Loan of 1855, have a preferential right of subscription to the new Loan at the issue price, by exchanging viz., £91 13s., and allotments will be made to them in full, provided they deposit their Bonds with the issuing Houses before the 20th inst.
Bonds of the 1864 and 1866 Loans, with Coupon of 1st April, 1890, attached, will be received in payment upon the following scale, which includes interest from 1st October, 1889, to 1st March, 1890 (from which date the new Bonds bear interest), namely:—

£100	1s. 8d.	per Bond of £100.
£80	10s. 4d.	" £1, 1,000 (or £94 15s. 4d.)

and Bonds of the Loan of 1855, with Coupon of 13th April, 1890, attached, will be received in payment at the rate of

£70 1s. 6d. per Bond of 500 Silver Roubles,

which also includes interest from 15th October, 1889, to 1st March proximo, when a balance will be settled by a cash payment.
For any Coupons missing from the old Bonds tendered for conversion, a deduction will be made from the above amounts of £2 10s., or £3 2s. 6d. per Coupon reckoned in Bonds of £100, or Fl. 1,000 of the Loans of 1864 and 1866, and of £1 12s. 6½d. per Coupon reckoned in Bonds of 500 Silver Roubles of the Loan of 1855.
Whilst holders of Bonds of the Five per Cent. Silver Loan of 1855 are given an early option of converting upon the above basis, the Imperial Russian Government expressly reserves all its rights in accordance with the text of the said Bonds, as regards any Bonds not presented for conversion.
The SUBSCRIPTION LIST will be CLOSED on or before the 20th of February, at 4 p.m.
The allotment will be made as early as possible after the subscription is closed, and where no allotment is made the deposit will be returned.
In default of payment of any successive instalments when due, all previous payments will be liable to forfeiture.
Scrip Certificates will be issued in exchange for Letters of Allotment when the Bonds will be delivered against fully-paid Scrip, as soon as possible after the date of the last instalment.
Application for Bonds is made on the prescribed form, and lodged at the offices of Messrs. Baring Brothers and Co., Bishopsgate-street within, E.C., or Messrs. C. J. Hambro and Son, 70, Old Broad-street, E.C.
London, 10th February, 1890.

WESTMINSTER FIRE OFFICE, 1, Dean's-yard, Westminster.
Founded A.D. 1717. Losses promptly paid.
Insurances arranged by Telephone No. 3,021.
Charles Route Browne, Secretary.

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY Established 1803. 1, Old Broad-street, E.C.; 22, Pall-mall, S.W. Subscribed Capital, £1,250,000; paid up, £250,000; total invested funds, over £1,000,000. E. Cozens Smith, Gen. Manager.

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE,
19, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.,
AND
57, CHARING CROSS, S.W.

INSTITUTED A.D. 1696.
HAND-IN-HAND INSURANCE SOCIETY.
(MUTUAL, both FIRE and LIFE.)
LIFE.—Profits divided Annually.
FIRE.—Quinquennially or Septennially.
Bonuses Large. Expenses Moderate. No Personal Liability.
ANNUAL INCOME, £318,600.
ACCUMULATED FUNDS, £2,362,255.
No. 26, New Bridge-street, E.C.

DEATH AND DISABLEMENT BY ACCIDENT.
THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY assures £1,000 at death and full benefits at £4 per annum.
Hon. Evelyn Ashley, Manager.
ANNUAL INCOME, £850,000.
60,000 Annual Policyholders.
INVESTED CAPITAL AND RESERVE FUND, £235,000.
COMPENSATION PAID, £2,750,000.
West-End Office:—8, Grand Hotel-buildings, W.C.
Head Office:—64, Cornhill, London, E.C.
William J. Vian, Secretary.

NEW DEPARTURE
IN
PROTECTION FROM FIRE.
THE "MONARCH" FIRE BRIGADE PILLAR.
The cheapest and most efficient means of protection from fire yet introduced.
Send for Particulars to
SINCLAIR, TWEDIE, and CO.,
15, Elson-street London, E.C.

Established 1853.
THE LIBERATOR BUILDING SOCIETY.
Budge-row, Cannon-street, London E.C.
Reserve Fund £80,000
FIVE PER CENT. INTEREST ON SHARES (£50 each), and on deposits of £500 and upwards made for Executors.
DEPOSITS of £5 and upwards at ONE MONTH'S NOTICE, FOUR PER CENT.
Pass-books apply to the Secretary.
F. H. Rocke

MONARCH INVESTMENT BUILDING SOCIETY. Established 1867.
Total advances made exceed £1,385,683.
DEPOSITS received at 3½ and 4 per cent., subject to arrangement as to withdrawal.
DIVIDENDS on Shares paid through the post.
For forms of application apply to
W. H. Stanley, Secretary.
Offices: 23, Finsbury-circus, E.C.

TO BE SOLD.—For immediate occupation. Maida Vale. Noble FAMILY RESIDENCE, 64, Portsdown-road, W. In perfect order and condition, and splendidly re-decorated throughout. Contains sixteen capital rooms, two and old bath. Rent moderate. Lease very long. Good garden. Lease 60 years. Price only £2,600, cost £4,500 a few years back.—Apply to care taker in charge.

The DEBENTURE CORPORATION, Limited and the FOREIGN and COLONIAL DEBENTURE CORPORATION, Limited, Chester House, Walbrook, London, E.C., and the REVERSION AND DEBENTURE CORPORATION of SCOTLAND, Limited, Edinburgh, are prepared to receive applications for the undermentioned Share Capital.
The LIST will OPEN TO-DAY (Thursday) the 13th day of February, 1890, and CLOSE on WEDNESDAY (Friday), the 14th day of February, 1890, or earlier.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN DEBENTURE CORPORATION (Limited).
(Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862-1886.)
CAPITAL, £1,000,000 in 300,000 Shares of £10 each, of which 10/- are Founders' Shares.
FIRST ISSUE, 150,000 Ordinary £10 Ordinary Shares and 20,0 Founders' Shares.
The Directors will make a call on the Founders' Shares in any year until Seven per cent. Dividend has been paid for that year on the Ordinary Shares. The Founders' Shares will then receive half of the remaining profits, subject to provision for Reserve Fund. The remaining half of the Founders' Shares agree to pay the whole of the preliminary expenses of the Corporation up to the First Allotment of Shares. The Corporation will thus have the advantage of commencing business free from the preliminary expenses incidental to the formation and promotion of an important financial undertaking of this description. The Founders also subscribe for £1,000,000 of this issue of Ordinary Shares, the success of which is thus assured, but these Shares will not be entitled to any preference in the Allotment over other applications for Ordinary Shares, except that the American Agents have stipulated for the allotment to them of the £150,000 of Ordinary Shares, for which they have subscribed as Founders.
The 150,000 Ordinary Shares of the first issue are now offered for subscription, payable as follows:—10s. on Application; 10s. on Allotment; £3 on 15th May, 1890; and £6 on 15th June, as may be required at not less than three months' interval. (It is not expected that more than £4 per share will be called up.)

DIRECTORS.
J. Spencer Balfour, Esq., M.P., 8, Marlborough-gate, London, W., Vice-Chairman of the Debenture Corporation, Limited.
H. Evans Broad, Esq., Directors of the Foreign 1, Bucklersbury, London, E.C., and Colonial Debenture Corporation, Limited.
Thomas Fickus, Esq., 78, Lombard-street, London, E.C., Chairman of the Debenture Corporation, Limited.
Vesey G. M. Holt, Esq. (Messrs. Holt, Lawrie, and Co.), 9, Waterloo-place, S.W.
Geo. Auldjo Jamieson, Esq., 37, Drumsheugh-gardens, Edinburgh, Chairman of the Realisation and Debenture Corporation of Scotland (Limited).
R. Biddulph Martin, Esq., 68, Lombard-street, London, E.C., Chairman of the Debenture Corporation (Limited).
Sir George Warrender, Bart., Chairman of the Scottish-American Investment Company.
ADVISERS AND AGENTS IN AMERICA.
Messrs. Alfred Loeb and Co., 30, Nassau-street, New York.
Messrs. J. Kennedy Tod and Co., 45, Wall-street, New York.
BANKERS IN LONDON.
Messrs. Martin and Co., 68, Lombard-street, E.C.
Messrs. Melville, Evans, and Co., 79, Lombard-street, E.C.
BANKERS IN AMERICA.
The American Exchange National Bank, Broadway, New York.
SOLICITORS.
Messrs. Linklaters, Blackwood, Addison, and Brown, 2, Bond-court, Walbrook, London, E.C.
Messrs. Gadsden and Hopkins, 2, Gresham-court, London, W.C.
Messrs. Seward Da Costa and Guthrie, 39, Nassau-street, New York.
Auditors.—Messrs. Turquand, Youngs, Weise, and Co., 8, Union-court, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.
Brokers.—Messrs. Sheppards, Pellys, Scott, and Co., 57, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.
Secretary (pro tem.).—F. G. Fedden, Esq.,
OFFICES.
75, Lombard-street, London, E.C.
43, Wall-street, New York.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.
The Anglo-American Debenture Corporation (Limited) is established to provide a safe medium for the investment of British Capital in the United States, Canada, and elsewhere, upon carefully selected properties and approved bonds, obligations, mortgages, and Shares. While it is intended to deal principally in American Investments of this class, the Corporation is also empowered and will be prepared to undertake general business.
The Directors propose to call attention to the investment and development of a similar class of business to that which formed the nucleus of the business of the Debenture Corporation (Limited), and which has been developed with so much success. In dealing with this class of business this Corporation will have the advantage of the experience of the English Directors, aided by the local knowledge of the American Agents, and they hope to establish in this direction an outlet for capital as safe as and even larger and more profitable than that offered by similar British securities.
The Corporation will, as opportunity offers, follow the course adopted by the Debenture Corporation (Limited), and issue Preference Shares or Debentures for the development of Shares; but the Corporation will be able to borrow at English rates and to invest at American rates, which will secure the profits accruing to the Shareholders should be correspondingly large.
The Debenture Corporation (Limited), which was incorporated in 1858, has each year paid a Dividend and Bonus amounting together to Ten per cent., and its ordinary shares (£4 paid) are now quoted on the London Stock Exchange at a Premium of Twenty per cent. per share. The Foreign and Colonial Debenture Corporation (Limited), formed in March, 1889, has already paid an Interim Dividend of Seven per cent., and its Shares (£2 paid) are quoted at about Fifty per cent. premium.
No promotion money has been or will be paid by this Corporation, and no Contracts have been entered into except an Agreement dated the 15th January, 1890, made between Messrs. Kuhn, Loeb, and Co., and Messrs. J. Kennedy Tod and Co., and Harold Brown, acting for this Corporation, and an agreement dated the 10th January, 1890, between the Debenture Corporation (Limited), and the Foreign and Colonial Debenture Corporation (Limited), copies of which may be inspected by reference to the preliminary expenses, which can be seen, with the Memorandum and Articles of Association, at the Offices of the Solicitors in London and New York.
Full Prospectuses and Forms of Application for Shares may be obtained at the offices of this Corporation, and from the following, to:—
The Debenture Corporation (Limited), Worcester House, Walbrook, London, E.C.
The Foreign and Colonial Debenture Corporation (Limited), Worcester House, Walbrook, London, E.C.
Messrs. Martin and Co., 68, Lombard-street, London, E.C.
Messrs. Melville, Evans, and Co., 75, Lombard-street, London, E.C.
Messrs. Sheppards, Pellys, Scott, and Co., 57, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.
The Realisation and Debenture Corporation of Scotland (Limited), 23, St. Andrew-square, Edinburgh.
February 8, 1890.

THE TRANSVAAL MORTGAGE, LOAN, AND FINANCE COMPANY (Limited). CAPITAL, £600,000.
W. J. Thompson, Esq., 31, Mincing-lane (Chairman).
L. Pasteur, Esq., Chairman of Oceana Transvaal Land Company (Limited).
L. Denisaul, Esq., Rosslyn, 80, Cornhill.
T. Morgan Hawery, Esq., Director of City Bank (Limited), and Bank of Africa (Limited).
P. Henwood, Esq., of Messrs. P. Henwood, Son, and Co.
Charles D. Rose, Esq., of Messrs. Morton, Rose, and Co.
Owen Wynn, Esq., Chairman New Belgium (Transvaal) Land and Development Company, Ltd.
The Company receives money on deposit fixed for two years and upwards bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.
The fullest information can be obtained by written or personal application to the Offices, 35, Cornhill, London, E.C.
George William Thompson, Chief Manager.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
MAXIM - NORDENFELT COMPANY.
The SPECIAL MEETING of this Company for appointing a Committee of Investigation is now FINALLY FIXED for FRIDAY, the 21st inst., at 3 o'clock, at Cannon-street Hotel.

REVERSIONS AND LIFE INTERESTS in LANDED or FUNDED PROPERTY or other securities and annuities PURCHASED, or loans or annuities thereon granted, by the EQUITABLE REVERSIONARY INTEREST SOCIETY (Limited), 19, Lancaster-place, Waterloo-bridge, Strand. Established 1835. Capital, £500,000. Interest on Loans may be capitalized.
F. S. Clayton, Joint
C. H. Clayton, Secretaries.

Dr. B. W. HAIR'S

ASTHMA CURE.

THE ONLY CONSTITUTIONAL CURE.

The great success which has attended the use of this Medicine has induced me to publish to the World that I have found a certain cure for those who are afflicted with this disease.—B. W. HAIR, M.D.

SINCE ITS DISCOVERY IN 1876 THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF ASTHMATIC AND BRONCHITIS

Cases Cured Exceed 15,000 Annually,

ECLIPSING IN SUCCESS ALL OTHER ASTHMATIC AND BRONCHITIS REMEDIES KNOWN.

The proofs are contained in the SPONTANEOUS TESTIMONY of England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, America, and other countries, contained in our Treatise, sent free, and post paid, to any address.

EXTRACTS from A FEW out of NINETY-EIGHT THOUSAND UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS.

Mrs. HERVEY, wife of Rev. F. Hervey, Rector of Sandringham, Chaplain to her Majesty the Queen, Domestic Chaplain to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, wrote:—" December 15, 1888.—Mrs. Frederick Hervey has much pleasure in stating that she has derived great benefit from Dr. Hair's Asthma Cure. Mrs. Hervey had suffered much from asthma and tried numerous remedies with slight success. . . . From twenty-four hours after first taking the medicine until this moment, Mrs. Hervey has had only one bad attack of asthma, which occurred on her getting the usual dose. . . . Perfectly free from all symptoms of asthma." And again, January 30, 1889:—" Mrs. Hervey enclosed a cheque, £2 2s., and begs to have sent her train of the Cure, as mentioned before. Mrs. Hervey ought to state that both these poor people have already greatly benefited by the cure. . . . .

JOHN S. BREWER, Esq., J.P., Government Marine Surveyor of Hong Kong, &c. &c., writes:—" Ashen Field, Highbury, London, N. 4th November 15, 1889.—Dear Sirs,—I was invalided home from China last year, and after several months' liver trouble I was attacked with severe spasmodic asthma. During my paroxysms it became apparently a struggle between life and death. I gave up all hope of ever an hour escaping for air, and thought I was fairly choking me or burning some of the usual fumigators under my nose. The only relief I found was, when I felt an attack coming on, to have recourse to my morphia syringe. Of course this is only a temporary relief, and condemned by doctors and friends alike. For some weeks I could get no permanent relief, until a friend who had tried your Asthma Cure mentioned his cure to me. I sent for a bottle a month since, and obtained *immediate* relief. I have not had a paroxysm since, though I have not been able to get my bottle of the Cure; my friends are what to do, and I had become overtired or excited, a spoonful of the Cure is an immediate relief. I am now as much improved that I came to London from Harrogate this week to take my passage to China. Can arrive by a King's Cross Express in a cab, and, without warning, I felt an attack immediately. I beckoned a porter, who brought a chair. I just managed to get the small bottle of your Asthma Cure from my pocket and took a good dose, and in less than five minutes I was sufficiently recovered to give instructions about my luggage and my destination, and quite regained myself when driving out here. May I ask if you have any agents in China? If not, I shall lay in a supply of the Cure, as it is the only thing I can trust."

The Rev. J. E. WILLIAMS, of North Nibley Vicarage, Dursley, writes, December 26, 1889, for "three more bottles of Dr. Hair's Asthma Cure, also a small box of Asthma and Liver Pills. The Rev. J. E. Williams is forty-seven years of age and suffered frightfully with asthma, and he has tried almost every remedy. Lately he has had one bottle of Dr. Hair's valuable Cure, which has done wonders for him. Please find cheque enclosed for three bottles and a box of Pills." And again, on December 23:—" I have much pleasure in telling you of the great benefit I have derived from your Asthma Cure. With the exception of some years spent abroad I have suffered all my life from spasmodic asthma, and have tried almost every remedy. Some have very much relieved me, but none given me the lasting relief that I have been tempted after wards to think the remedy worse than the disease. I was worse than usual a month ago, and was so depressed and broken down with bad nights and want of sleep, that I felt it was useless to try any remedy. A kind friend of your Cure from a friend, and at last persuaded me to try it. The first dose was wonderful in its effect. I had an excellent night, and the next day took a walk of two miles. Please make what use you like of this and my other letter."

Mrs. J. J. ROSS, wife of Major Ross, Trevean, Penzance, wrote Nov. 30, 1889:—. . . Nobody can have derived more benefit from the medicine than I have. I have never had one disturbed night since I took my second dose in November, 1887." And again on August 28th, 1890:—" Please send me three bottles of Asthma Cure, not for myself, I am thankful to say, as I am now well; but I am so frequently asked for it, I like to keep some. . . . .

Miss EMMA LAVENDER, 3, Dorset-place, Walsall, wrote:—" Oct. 11, '89.—" . . . I have derived so much benefit from the Asthma Cure, that I speak of it to all I meet with. . . . This is the first summer I have been without asthma for more than 23 years."

Also from the Countess of Macclesfield, Lady Sargent, Sir Samuel Hayes, Bart., Admiral Hornby, Canon Carter, Cyril Cunard, Esq., Thomas B. Furner, Esq., M.D., G. Hungerford, Esq., M.D., G. Davis, Esq., M.D., S. W. Leland, Esq., M.D., Prof. H. L. Osborn, LL.D., Prof. Peabody, S. D. Brothers, Esq., M.D., General Jackson, of the U.S. Army, &c., &c., &c.

Dr. B. W. HAIR & SON, 249½, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON; CINCINNATI, OHIO; and LEIPZIG, GERMANY, &c.

In the High Court of Justice. Chancery Division.—Clerk v. Clark.—Sirsted.—Excellent Freehold Investment, producing £60 per annum.

MR. EDWARD TEWSON, of the Farm, at Bridgewater, in the county of Somerset, Farmer, and Bridgewaner (the person appointed by Mr. Justice Stirling, to whose Court the cause is attached), will SELL, at the MART, on TUESDAY, February 25, at 1 for the important FREEHOLD PROPERTY (land-tax redeemed), 14, Buckingham-street, Strand, occupying a very eligible position, close to Charing-cross Station, and overlooking the Embankment Gardens and the River Thames; it has a frontage of 17 ft. to Buckingham-street, a frontage of about 82 ft. 4 in. to York-terrace (a private walk over which the various tenants have the right of entry), and an area of about 3,891 square feet. It comprises a substantial and commodious building of five floors and basement, divided into numerous suites of convenient chambers, all of which are in occupation, at capital rentals, the total rental being £860 per annum.—Particulars, plan, and conditions of sale may be obtained, free of charge, of Messrs. Lumb, Pullinger, Tewson, and Williams, solicitors, 5, Finsbury-circus; of Messrs. Hensley and Hensley, solicitors, 5, All-a-green-court, Piccadilly; and of Messrs. Debenham, Tewson, Farmer, and Bridgewater, auctioneers and surveyors, 80, Cheapside.

FUND to INDEMNIFY Mr. HELBY.—Subscriptions may be sent to the Treasurer, General SIR, S. James-street, Buckingham-gate, S.W. Bankers, Messrs. Twining.

HOUSES, Furnished and Unfurnished, and Apartments of business premises, to be let or sold in London and country; valuable selections of building land also in hand. Particulars free, of H. C. HALLOWS, Land and Estate Agent, 50 and 50, Chancery lane, W.C., and Hendon

SPLENDID SUITE of OFFICES, suitable for a firm of Architects, Surveyors, Solicitors, Public Company, Institution, or for private firm. Ground floor, 10, Buckingham-street, Charing-cross.—Apply HOUSE and Co.

TO LET, HOUSE FURNISHED.—Three sitting-rooms, four bedrooms and one dining-room, kitchen, &c. Good drainage. Plenty of pure water. Garden. Splendid view of the sea and river. Two miles from Bideford. Within easy walk of United Services, Bideford, Junior School, and Ladies' School. Ten minutes from Church. Rent £50 per annum; no taxes.—"Ivybridge," care of Miss Wilson, The Library, Bideford.

CIVIL SERVICE SUPPLY ASSOCIATION (LIMITED).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING of the Association will be held on THURSDAY, the 27th inst., at 6 o'clock precisely, in the PILLAR HALL, CITY TERMINUS HOTEL, E.C.

The Share Transfer Books will be CLOSED from the 15th to the 27th inst., both inclusive.

By order,
JOHN E. BIGNALL, Secretary.
136, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.,
February 8, 1890.

CHUBB'S SAFES

Will Prevent Jewel Robberies.

ILLUSTRATED PRICE LISTS POST FREE.

128, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C.; 68, ST. JAMES'S STREET, PALL MALL, LONDON.

THROAT AND COUGH.

SORENESS and DRYNESS, TICKLING and IRRITATION, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these troubles use EPPS'S GLYCERINE JUJUBES. In connect with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold in Tins, 1s. 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS and CO., Homœopathic Chemists, London."

ALKARAM

BARSWATER, *October* 22, 1885.—DEAR SIR,—Your ALKARAM has attacked by violent INFLUENZA; I despaired of being able to fulfil an important concert engagement on the 20th inst. I took a dose of your "Alk-ram," which I did. This morning my cold has quite disappeared leaving my voice "clear as a bell."—Faithfully yours, VICTOR ROMILLY.

EXCHANGE or SELL ANYTHING of which you do not now want through the BAZAAR, EXCHANGE AND MART. The best terms obtained easily, quickly, privately, and safely.—Price 2d. of all newsagents; or specimen copy for two stamps from the Office, 170, Strand, London, W.C.

BARGAINS in every description of Personal Property can be secured through THE BAZAAR, EXCHANGE AND MART, which also contains a considerable quantity of interesting and useful literary matter on a great variety of subjects, especially addressed to Amateurs in Art, Music, Literature, Science, Mechanics, Gardening, Housekeeping, Management of Poultry, Dogs, Goats, Cage Birds, and Pets generally.—Price 2d., of all newsagents; or specimen copy for two stamps from the Office, 170, Strand, London, W.C.

DAY TECHNICAL SCHOOL FOR BOYS. In the Technical Division of the POLYTECHNIC DAY SCHOOL there is a most THOROUGH TECHNICAL TRAINING preparatory for Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Architects, Art, Decorative and the Building Trades. Good Workshops, Chemical Laboratories. Half Term commences Feb. 26th. Prospectus on Application to Mr. R. MITCHELL, 203, Regent-street, W.

QUEENWOOD COLLEGE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE EARLSWOOD ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS, Redhill, Surrey, has accommodation for 700 Patients. The present income enables the Committee to receive not more than 600.

Contributions are urgently required to defray the current expenses, and create a Sinking Fund of £4,000 in the usual Average Annual Income.

Private Patients are received on payments regulated by the Board of Management.

Bankers: Messrs. Hoare, 37, Fleet-street, E.C.
H. GERARD HOARE, Esq., Treasurer.
JAMES DOWNING, Secretary.
Offices: 55, King William-street, London, E.C.

CROSVENOR HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, VICTORIA SQUARE, WESTMINSTER.

THE COMMITTEE URGENTLY APPEAL for FUNDS to carry out the much needed improvement of Rebuilding the Hospital, £17,000 required for this object. Donations toward the fund and annual subscriptions are earnestly solicited.

F. C. HOWARD, Secretary.

KEATING'S LOZENGES
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy
Soldin Tins, 1s.1½d. each.

Amalgamation of the great Papermaking, Printing, Publishing, Lithographic, and Kindred Businesses of Vienna.

DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

THE ANGLO-AUSTRIAN PRINTING AND PUBLISHING UNION (LIMITED).

SHARE AND DEBENTURE CAPITAL, £750,000.

Consisting of 25,000 Eight per cent. Cumulative Preference Shares of £10 each; 25,000 Ordinary Shares of £10 each; and 2,500 First Mortgage Debenture Bonds of £100 each; bearing interest at the rate of Six per cent. per annum.

Chairman of London Board: The Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR.
Chairman of Austrian Committee: PRINCE SERGIUS RADZIWILL.

Specimens of the work of the various Firms may be seen at 21, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

"THE TIMES," December 9, 1889.

An English syndicate, the chairmanship of which will, it is said, be shortly accepted by the Lord Mayor of London, has been negotiating in Vienna for the purchase of the principal paper-making, printing, and publishing establishments in that capital. The arrangements have just been completed, and it is the new year 15 of the leading houses in Vienna will be amalgamated under a new English Company. The head of a great London publishing organization has been the moving spirit in this undertaking.

"THE TIMES," Feb. 11, 1890.

The Company has been formed for the purpose of effecting a combination of the great printing, publishing, and lithographing businesses in Vienna. It has purchased the three leading paper and wood pulp mills in the environs of Vienna; and the six principal establishments in the capital for newspaper and general printing, music printing, and lithography, bookbinding, stationery, and geographical and chart printing. The Austrian Government appears to have taken the scheme warmly in hand.

"DAILY CHRONICLE," December 12, 1889.

The Austrian Government has recently been considering the applications of several English Companies for permission to trade in Austria, and it is gratifying to be able to observe that a very liberal spirit has been shown. Among other new concerns is a paper-making, printing, and publishing Company, which will, it is said, have as chairman the Lord Mayor of London. This Company has, it is understood, acquired some of the principal paper-making, printing, and publishing businesses in Vienna, among the property being several newspapers.

"DAILY CHRONICLE," February 10, 1890.

A good deal of romance surrounds the Austrian Concessions in consequence of the support given by Count Taaffe to the English Company which, as already stated, is about to establish a paper-making and publishing concern here. Literary and publishing circles, also, seem to be strangely agog, and it must be believed, resting in utter ignorance of the proposed operations of the Company, which has taken over many of the principal printing and publishing businesses; the fear apparently being lest foreigners should acquire a danger on language or literature which could injure Austria. Of course any such alarm is quite groundless, the object of the English Company being a purely commercial one. The chairman of this particular Company is Lord Mayor Isaacs, and it is affiliated with the Hansard Union of London, the Chairman of which latter concern, Mr. Horatio Bottomley, is the Vice-Chairman of the Anglo-Austrian Union, the President of the Local Board being Prince Radziwill. Both unions will have close commercial relations, and with the almost immediate success of this union goes far to prove the value of exhibitions, since it sprang out of the last London exhibition, the Austrian exhibit at which showed conclusively that the typographic art stood higher at Vienna than anywhere else, the first price having been taken by Vienna.

"PALL MALL GAZETTE," February 11, 1890.

The Anglo-Austrian Printing and Publishing Union (Limited), which will be issued this week, appears to have made a sensation in Vienna. The company has purchased the three largest paper and wood pulp mills in the country, and the principal establishments in the capital for newspaper and general printing, music printing, and lithography, bookbinding, stationery, and geographical and chart printing. The share capital of the company is £750,000, and the debenture capital is £250,000. The Lord Mayor is the chairman of the London board, and Prince Radziwill of the Austrian board.

"FINANCIAL NEWS," February 12, 1890.

For some time past we have been accustomed to see English capital employed in supplying the Americans with railways, the Russians with water, the Servians with roads, and the French with panoram cabs, and even the Germans with beats. More recently our philanthropic finance has sought a new employment in the acquisition of American and continental breweries and American patent medicines. A digression of the ordinary character is not yet exhausted. Surveying the commercial world from China to Peru, his eye has fallen upon Austria, and in the chief city of that empire the printing trade has found favour in his sight. The result is now to be presented to our public in the form of a combination of fourteen important Vienna establishments. These are a rectangular and general printing business, a music-printing and lithographic business, a bookbinding establishment, a manufactory of stationery, a coloured and embossed paper factory, a photographic establishment, a hello- and zinco-graphic plate manufactory, a geographical and chart publishing business, an encaustic book manufactory, a central publishing concern, and three paper mills, and the business of the morning and evening paper—the WIENER TAGBLATT. With these materials it is proposed to form the Anglo-Austrian Printing and Publishing Union (Limited), with a capital of £500,000 in shares and £250,000 in debentures. The Lord Mayor will preside over the London Board of Directors, and Prince Sergius Radziwill has been nominated by the Austrian Prime Minister to preside over the Austrian committee. Messrs. Monkhouse, Goddard, and Co. certify that, on the basis of twelve months' trading, the profits of the various businesses will suffice to pay 8 per cent. on the Debentures and 8 per cent. on the £250,000 of Preference shares, leaving a large surplus available for the Ordinary shares after providing for management. This estimate takes no account of any savings to be effected by the amalgamation or any profits to be derived from the paper mills. We may add that the enterprise is in the hands of the authors of the Hansard Publishing Union, which recently paid a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. on both its Ordinary and Preference shares.

"FINANCIAL TIMES," February 11, 1890.

A Company, formed on the lines of the Hansard Union, for amalgamating the printing and publishing businesses of Vienna is, we understand, to appear during the present week. Prince Sergius Radziwill has been nominated by the Austrian Government as Chairman of the Vienna Committee, from which it would appear that it takes a favourable view of the undertaking. The purchase price for all the businesses is £600,000, the vendor stipulating that he shall receive £400,000 in preference and ordinary shares and debentures. He further expresses his willingness to take no balance in cash and ordinary shares should the directors prefer this mode of payment. As the realizable properties to be taken over, irrespective of goodwill, have valued at £1,000,000, there should be ample security for the debenture holders, and the £130,000 does not appear to be too heavy a sum to pay for goodwill, judging by Messrs. Monkhouse, Goddard, and Co.'s report as to past earnings.

"THE ECHO," February 7, 1890.

This is a big undertaking. When the amalgamation has been completed it will probably form the largest printing concern on the Continent. In the past a large business has been done by the separate firms, in all probability they will do a larger one in combination. Vienna is an important printing centre. The firms located there have also had a reputation throughout Eastern Europe which, backed by British capital and British enterprise, could be increased. The Lord Mayor is to be Chairman of the Company, while the Austrian Committee will consist of Prince Sergius Radziwill, Baron Pereira Arnstein, and Nicholaus Ritter von Scanzi, the well-known banker. Half the share capital takes the form of Eight per Cent. Cumulative Preference Shares. They should be a particularly tempting investment.

"THE STAR," February 8, 1890.

ANOTHER GREAT PRINTING COMBINATION.

We hear that a Company under this name is about to be brought out, with a share capital of £500,000 and a Debenture Capital of £250,000. The object of the Company is to bring about a combination of leading printing, lithographic, publishing, and kindred busine ses in Vienna, and to develop the large business at present carried on between England and Austria in the printing and publishing industries. It is proposed to establish a branch agency in London there h which the business of the Company can be transacted, and the Hansard Publishing Union (Limited) is to have the agency, which will be a considerable source of profit. The scheme of amalgamation has received the warmly approval by the Austrian Prime Minister, who has nominated the Chairman of the Austrian Committee. The Chairman of the London Board is the Lord Mayor.

"THE BRITISH AND COLONIAL PRINTER AND STATIONER."

February 6, 1890.

The success achieved by the Hansard Publishing Union has led the managing director, Mr. Horatio Bottomley, to examine into the foreign connexion possessed by the printing, bookbinding, and publishing trades more especially as to the business done by foreign houses with London and the Colonies, and an examination of the business has shown him that Austria ranks very high in these departments. Communication with the directors of foremost publishing, printing, newspaper, bookbinding, photographic, zincengraving, account book making and publishing concerns led the managing director of the Hansard Publishing Union to believe that if the fourteen firms in question could not amalgamate, great economies might be effected, without in any way hurting the English trade, for at the present time many of these firms already trade with England, and it might be as well for the profit to be acquired by an English concern. After considerable negotiations, Mr. Bottomley has arranged the matter provisionally, and formed an amalgamation, as for the title of the Anglo-Austrian Printing and Publishing Union (Limited) has been arranged. The promoters of this Company recognise that profit of a considerable character is and long has been made by these foreign houses, and as the English trade is extensive, they say, why not have some of the profits ourselves? Hence the amalgamation. The increased profit accrue to an English proprietary? There is no doubt that much English printing and publishing work has drifted of late years to Vienna firms, and therefore we see no objection to the proposed amalgamation of interests, and possession of the Austrian works by an English proprietary. Considerable interest in the Austrian arena very good things to work upon, and as the directors, to facilitate the working of the united businesses, intend to establish a direct agency in London, connected by special wire with Vienna, the undertaking altogether appears to be based upon broad common sense, commercial ideas, and its future will be watched with interest by the English trade.

"THE PAPER TRADE REVIEW." February 7, 1890.

It has been found that considerable work for this country, affecting the printing, paper and allied trades, is done in Austria, and Mr. H. Bottomley, the managing director of the Hansard Union, in acquainting himself with the particulars of a number of printing, publishing, and paper-making concerns in Vienna, arrived at the opinion that an amalgamation of the various interests would be of a most valuable character. This has led to the formation of the Anglo-Austrian Printing and Publishing Union (Limited). Considerable printing and publishing work for this country has been done in Vienna during late years, and the acquisition of the various firms mentioned must be attended with a good deal of success, and its economy due to concentration will no doubt be an important item in the conduct of the businesses. A direct agency will be established in London.

"WIENNA TAGBLATT," February 8, 1890.

After causing to be made all necessary preliminary investigations by qualified English experts (which has taken several months to do), the Managing Director of the Hansard Publishing Union now launches an Austrian Company of a similar description under the title of the Anglo-Austrian Printing and Publishing Union. This is the history of an enterprise which will cause general interest in all commercial circles, and will exercise a great influence upon an important branch of Austrian industry. For this great international undertaking a number of prominent, and for the most part old-established and highly respected firms have combined, so that we have the following branches of the printing and publishing trades represented—Paper and pulp mills, coloured and embossed paper manufacturing, lithographic, music, chromo and general printing, hello- and zincographic work, geographical and chart printing, book and general publishing, bookbinding, &c. The graphic work, geographical and chart printing, book and general publishing, bookbinding departments of the industry ensure blending together these various, although intimately connected, departments of the industry ensure beyond doubt for the company the same prosperity which has attended the operations of the English company.

"THE DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG," February 9, 1890.

The peculiar industrial system of the Hansard Publishing Union consists of the concentration of all those parts of the trade which are in turn employed in the production of complete works. The Austrian company, which is to be organized under the title of the Anglo-Austrian Printing and Publishing Union (Limited), has succeeded in acquiring the control of old-established firms representing paper and pulp mills, printing, lithographic and music establishments, chromo works, coloured and fancy paper factories, zinco-graphic works, paper warehouses, geographical and chart publishing, book publishing establishments, and bookbinding works. This influx of English capital into Austria for industrial purposes is to be rejoiced over.

"THE VIENNA ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG," February 9, 1890.

We hear that the arrangements in connection with the Anglo-Austrian Printing and Publishing Union (Limited) as an English share company are now perfected, and that the operations will be principally confined to international trade in connexion with the Austrian printing and publishing undertakings.

"THE NEUE FREIE PRESSE," February 9, 1890.

During the next few days a new company, which has been formed in London under the title of the Anglo-Austrian Printing and Publishing Union (Limited), which has been brought about by the enterprise of the Managing Director of the Hansard Publishing Union (Limited), will commence its operations in connexion with the Austrian printing and publishing trade. Negotiations have been entered into with different firms here (representing all branches of the trade), with the result being that they will be taken over by the company.

PROSPECTUSES WILL BE READY SHORTLY.

ST. JOHN WINNE, Secretary (pro tem.), 12 and 14, Catherine-street, Strand, London, W.C.

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